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MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Mount Olive Church, Stanly Co, N. C.,

SEPTEMBER 22, 23, A. D. 1871.

SALISBURY, N. C.
PRINTED AT THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN OFFICE.
1871.

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

ROCKY RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

Held with Mount Olive Church, Stanly County, N. C.,
September 22d, 23d, 1871.

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MT. OLIVE CHURCH, Sept. 22, 1871.

THE Association met at the time and place appointed. Elder G. O. Wilhoit being absent, the introductory sermon was preached by Elder B. H. Carter, alternate, from II Cor. vi, 11, 12, 13.

Prayer by Elder W. M. Johnson, of Moriah.

The benediction was then pronounced.

Recreation for half an hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened by the Moderator by reading the xxiii Psalm.

Prayer by bro. J. M. McCurdy.

The letters of the Churches were read and the names of delegates recorded.

An election was then held which resulted in the choice of Elder E. C. Williams, Moderator; S. D. Mann, Clerk; and J. M. McCurdy, Treasurer.

The Canton Church was then received into our Association.

Brethren of sister Associations were then invited to seats with us. Elder W. M. Johnson, of Moriah; and H. Morton, of Liberty, came forward.

Brother Mills, editor of the *Recorder*, being present, was invited to participate.

Committees were then appointed, as follows:

On Church Letters—Bro. Mills, D. A. Parker and W. M. Johnson.

On Finance.—J. M. McCurdy, J. M. Braswell and E. H. Williams.

To Arrange Preaching.—Elders C. C. Foreman, D. R. W. Harward, and Deacons of church.

On Business.—L. C. Morton, H. S. Carter.

Prayer by Eld. W. M. Johnson. Benediction by Moderator. Adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

SATURDAY, 9 A. M.

The Association met according to adjournment. The moderator opened by reading the xix Ps. Prayer by brother H. S. Carter.

The Committee on the Order of Business, reported and was discharged.

Rules of Decorum read.

Correspondents to sister Associations, called on to report.

To the Pee Dee—No attendance.

To the Lewis Fork—No attendance.

To the Beulah—No attendance.

To the Yadkin—Br. J. M. McCurdy attended and was cordially received.

Committees appointed to write were called on to report, viz:

Home Missions—Elder G. O. Wilhoit. Absent.

Foreign Missions—S. S. Stone. Absent.

Education—L. C. Morton. Reported. Adopted.

Sabbath Schools—H. Dry. Reported and report adopted.

Temperance—J. M. McCurdy. do. do. do.

Periodicals—D. A. Parker. do. do. do.

Ministerial Support—Eld. A. G. Calloway. Absent.

State of Religion—Elder J. M. Wilkerson. Absent.

Church Discipline—Elder E. C. Williams. Report adopted.

Circular Letters—E. F. Fenton. Absent. No report.

Correspondents of sister Associations were invited to seats.

Brown Creek—J. W. Parker and J. M. Broadaway, were cordially received.

Report on Church Letters—Br. J. H. Mills, reported and report received.

Benediction.

Recreation of half an hour.

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2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Opened by singing.

The committee appointed to confer with the Mt. Zion church

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for non-attendance with this body, report no attendance.

The committee appointed to confer with the Brown Creek and Pee Dee Associations, report no attendance. Discharged.

Correspondents were then appointed for the ensuing year.

To Liberty—J. F. Hodge and Elder W. W. Russell.

To Moriah—Elder E. C. Williams.

To Pee Dee—Elder E. C. Williams, D. A. Parker and J. Griffin.

To Lewis Fork—

To Beulah—H. S. Carter.

To Yadkin—Elder E. C. Williams and J. M. McCurdy.

To Brown Creek—C. H. Brooks and A. Hill.

The various committees to be appointed to write, were dispensed with until the body next convenes.

The next meeting of the Association will convene with the Mill Creek Church in Union county, commencing Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1872.

Elder G. O. Wilhoit was appointed to preach the introductory, and Eld. C. C. Foreman, alternate.

Resolved, That the amount contributed by each church for Minutes appear in the Minutes.

Resolved, That each church shall receive Minutes in proportion to the amount contributed.

Resolved, That the Clerk shall receive six dollars for his services.

Resolved, That the Sunday collection be divided between Yates Chapel, in China, and Associate Missions.

Prayer and the benediction by the Moderator.

SATURDAY NIGHT, 7, P. M.

While Elder C. C. Foreman was preaching in the church, the Association assembled in the new store house near, and proceeded to business. After prayer by Elder H. Morton, various speeches were made on Missions. An Executive Board was appointed to attend the Howell's Church, on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in October, for the object of attending to Missionary purpose. Bros. D. A. Parker, and J. M. Braswell constitute said committee.

Resolved, That Pastors and Delegates report at that time their respective Churches in regard to Missions.

The following resolutions were then adopted:

1. *Resolved*, That Delegates be in full attendance at the organization of the Association unless a very good excuse be rendered.

2. *Resolved*, That the thanks of the Association be tendered to the members of Mt. Olive for their hospitality and generous entertainment during the Association.

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Requested that the Cl. address the delinquent Churches, viz: New Hope, Concord and Liberty Hill.

The Association raised $10, and appointed four delegates to the State Convention, to convene at Charlotte, viz: D. A. Parker, E. C. Williams, J. M. McCurdy and H. S. Carter.

On motion, the Association adjourned.

Prayer by Elder C. C. Foreman.

Hymn: "Children of the heavenly King," &c., extending the hand.—Benediction.

E. C. WILLIAMS, *Moderator.*

S. D. MANN, *Clerk.*

Note.—Requested that Dr. D. A. Parker write the Circular and choose his subject.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The undersigned having been appointed to write an Essay on Education, begs leave to submit the following:

BRETHREN: It is our duty to educate our children, at least in the English branches. Education is the great lever which elevates men and nations above ignorance, vice and immorality. In a moral point of view we would endeavor to promote education. When we take a general survey of the country, in which we live, and find so many children growing up without education, we come to the conclusion that we are not doing our duty. In a religious point of view we should be more zealous in the cause of education; for it is the means by which we learn our duty towards God and his divine will to mankind.

Brethren, will you be admonished by one who is anxious to see every son and daughter in our land thoroughly educated, to unite at once in the great enterprise of education, that we may dispel the mists of ignorance which has always darkened the pathway of mankind.

We believe that parents can educate their children if they use the proper means and energy. There are schools in this State that are offering every inducement for the education of the youth of our land, and if we have the means and fail to educate our children we are responsible to God.

L. C. MORTON.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The Sunday School is a benevolent institution carried on by energetic christians, free for all, both old and young, who are thirsting for a knowledge of the blessed truths contained in the Bible. This glorious institution is now progressing throughout the civilized parts of the world, and I am urged to say that I believe it to be the first step to the church. What a blessed privilege it is! Even the poorest children in our land can enjoy the attention of intelligent people. The Sunday School is not only beneficial in gaining religious knowledge, but it implants a principle in the minds of children that makes them upright in their dealings with their fellow men. And yet, we may look around us and see many children growing up in ignorance and sin, because no one

will carry them to the Sabbath School. Alas! how few christians there are who set themselves to work with all their might to look after these children! We must be more affected with their miserable condition; and we must become more complaisant towards them and yerrn after their welfare if we do them good. We must set ourselves to work, at once, and God will bless our labors. Respectfully submitted,

H. DRY.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

"Wine is a mocker and strong drink is raging, and he that is deceived thereby is not wise." Dear brethren, how sad to see so many of the youths of our country forming the habit of drinking ardent spirits, which if follow, is destined to ruin their usefulness in this life, and destroy their souls; for the Bible says no drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of heaven. But what shall I say to those in more advanced age? Members of the church who call yourselves moderate dram drinkers, let me beseech you, for the sake of your families, the cause which you have espoused and for the sake of our blessed Master, turn your back upon it as a deadly poison; for it will sting like a serpent and bite like an adder! Reason, common sense and the Word of God teach that ardent spirits, as a beverage, leads to sin and everlasting ruin, and "he that is deceived thereby is not wise." Very Respectfully submitted,

J. M. McCURDY.

PERIODICALS.

The Periodicals most sought after by the Baptists of N. C., are the Biblical Recorder, Kind Words and H. and T. Journal. I know but little of the two latter; but have been a reader of the Recorder from boyhood; am now a subscriber and intend to be, as long as I can raise the money to get it. I am satisfied it is the backbone of the cause of the Baptist in N. C., based on the teachings of the Bible, and should be taken by every Baptist in the State. No Baptist can get along and keep posted up on the doings of our denomination without the Recorder, or some other paper of the same teaching. The Recorder is our State paper: let as patronize it first. It is now edited by J. H. Mills and elder Hiden, who are standing up boldly and squarely for our cause and the teaching of Christ's church, as established by Him when on earth. Then let us hold them up by our money and redoubled efforts, that they may devote more time and employ a stronger corps of assistants, that nothing may be left unsaid, that may be for the building up of our cause, and the pulling down of the teachings of those that are trying to get up some other way than that taught in the New Testament. Can we blend with a "Chambliss," a Hooper, or the Pædo Dr. Deems, of New York? No! We must stand firm as a "Stone wall," and look neither to the right nor left. Respectfully submitted,

D. A. PARKER.

REPORT ON CHURCH DISCIPLINE.

By discipline is meant the right treatment of offending members. The church that neglects this duty resembles a State in which the administration of justice is omitted and crime is permitted to be practiced with impunity; that part of the design of church union, which consists in mutual watchfulness is lost, backsliders are encouraged to go farther astray; hypocrites are patronized in their self-delusion; society corrupted, and the honor of religion compromised. It is this sin which the apostle describes in those awful words—"If any man defile the temple

of God, him shall God destroy." The church is that temple, and to defile it is to introduce improper members to its communion, or to tolerate them in the practice of sin. The passage of scripture in connection with the one I have just quoted, seems to me to be generally misunderstood, and its true meaning deserves especial consideration in reference to church discipline. "Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stuble; every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work, of what sort it is." It has been usual to interpret this passage in reference to doctrines; but the true view of it would refer to persons. The materials laid by different preachers are not sentiments which they preach; but the members which they add to the church. Now, says the apostle, this is building up the temple of Christ with unsuitable material, therefore defiling it with the mixture of hay and stuble. The fire of persecution, however, would try every man's work, for the time of suffering would be sure to drive off those false professors in whom the Word has no root; and then this bad workmanship would be utterly destroyed. Let ministers and churches therefore beware of that want of discipline by which bad materials are either added to or kept in the walls of the spiritual house; since this is the crime of defiling the temple of God, to suffer offences to be committed without being removed, must be displeasing to God, as it would have been if the Jews had permitted any filthy substance to remain in the temple of Solomon or had swept the impurities of the sacrifice into the holy of holies. A single unpunished transgressor troubled the whole camp of Israel and brought calamity upon a nation; nor could the favor of God rest upon the people until Achan was destroyed. Nothing can be conceived of more likely to grieve the Holy Spirit or to induce him to withdraw his gracious influence from a church than a neglect of scriptural discipline; and it is worth while to examine whether this is one of the causes of the declining state of many of the churches. The advantages of discipline are obvious and numerous. It reclaims backsliders, it detects hypocrites, it circulates a secret and salutary awe through the church, supplies an additional incentive to watchfulness and prayer, by exhibiting at once the most affecting proofs of human frailty and painful consequences resulting from the exposure, while it is a public testimony against all unrighteousness. And here several things deserve our particular consideration: 1st. What offences should become subject to discipline. All scandalous vices and immorality. "Not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous or an idolator, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such a one not to eat; put away from yourselves that wicked person." 2d. The denial of essential articles of faith and persisting in the error. 3d. Disturbing the peace of the church in any way, is an offence that demands the exercise of discipline. 4th. Suffering near relatives to want the necessaries of life when able to relieve them. 5th. Living in a state of irreconcilable enmity with any of the brethren and refusing to make suitable concessions for an injury inflicted. "If he will not hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican."

Respectfully submitted,

E. C. WILLIAMS.

NOTE.—We thought it prudent to omit the Report on Church Letters, as bro. Mills set it forth very extensively in the Recorder. We respectfully urge that Letters give more accurate and definite information, hereafter, statistically.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Traveled twenty-one days, preached twenty sermons in the destitute parts of the country, baptized two persons, and preached thirty-two sermons at regularly constituted churches.

W. W. RUSSELL.

Traveled one hundred and five days, preached one hundred and fifteen sermons, and baptised eleven persons.

E. C. WILLIAMS.

R. H. James states that he has labored forty days this year, and has received $14 50.

Labored thirty-six days, preached forty sermons, baptized forty-two persons, constituted one church, and organized two Sabbath Schools.

B. H. CARTER.

Churches, Pastors, &c.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.
Clear Creek,.....	E. C. Williams, ..	E. H. Hinson,....	Clear Creek.
Mill Creek,.....	E. C. Williams, ..	J. M. Braswell,...	Monroe.
Pleasant Grove,..	C. C. Foreman, ..	A. McLester, ...	Big Lick.
Howell's, ...	E. C. Williams, ..	J. M. Howell,....	Pioneer Mills.
Mount Olive, ...	C. C. Foreman, ..	C. H. Brooks,....	Big Lick.
Mount Zion,.. .	B. H. Carter,.....	H. S. Carter, ...	Gold Hill.
Prospect,.....	B. H. Carter,.....	S. D. Mann, ...	Albemarle.
Corinth, ...	H. Morton, ...	J. F. Hodge, . .	Gold Hill.
New Hope,.....	.....	.....	.....
Kendall's,.....	H. Morton,.....	D. A. Parker,....	Kendall's Store.
Silver Spring,....	G. O. Wilhoit,...	M. M. Poplen, ...	Albemarle.
Pleasant Hill,....	J. W. Davis,.....	J. Love, ...	Olive Branch.
Harward's Grove,	J. M. Wilkerson,.	D. R. W. Harward	Big Lick.
Concord,.....	.. ..	.....	... .
Liberty,.....	.....	....	.....
Mineral Springs,.	A. H. Hill, ...	E. P. Herington,.	Big Lick.
Canton, ...	B. H. Carter,.....	A. Borroughs, ...	Albemarle.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Sab. of preaching.	Baptized,	Received by Letter,	Restored,	Dismissed by Letter,	Expelled,	Dead,	White Males,	White Females,	Colored Members,	Total,	Minutes, ... $	Minutes, ... cts.
Clear Creek, ...	Mecklenburg,	E. C. Williams, ...	4	3	8	..	..	3	1	27	45	..	72	3	00
Mill Creek, ...	Union, ...	J. M. Braswell, J. Griffin, E. H. Williams,	3	8	..	..	..	2	1	23	33	..	56	2	50
Pleasant Grove,	Stanly, ...	L. C. Morton, Mc. C. Willis, D. Borroughs,	2	5	..	1	8	1	1	16	44	..	60	2	00
Howell's, ...	Cabarrus, ...	J. M. McCurdy, J. M. Howell, ...	2	..	..	..	1	1	1	12	20	3	35	4	00
Mount Olive, ...	Stanly, ...	C. H. Brooks, C. A. Dry, J. W. Austin, ...	..	..	..	..	4	4	..	45	60	..	105	3	00
Mount Zion, ...	Rowan, ...	H. S. Carter, J. E. Carter, ...	..	8	10	..	..	0	..	7	13	..	20	2	50
Prospect, ...	Stanly, ...	S. D. Monroe, V. M. Carter, J. L. Kerns, ..	3	18	2	..	2	0	..	29	53	..	82	4	00
Corinth, ...	Rowan, ...	J. N. Morgan, M. M. Kirk, ...	1	25	..	..	10	0	1	34	64	..	98	2	00
New Hope, ...	Stanly, ...	Not represented.....	..	..	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..	....	..	.....
Kendall's, ...	do	J. W. Claton, J. M. Calaway, D. A. Parker	2	1	..	..	..	3	1	14	31	6	51	2	10
Silver Spring, ..	do	R. R. Briant, ...	..	..	1	..	2	4	..	23	27	..	50	2	00
Pleasant Hill, ..	Union, ...	J. Austin, C. Stewart, ...	..	3	3	..	..	3	..	19	38	6	63	1	25
Howard's Grove,	Stanly, ...	D. R. W. Harward, ...	1	..	..	..	..	0	1	6	16	..	22		50
Concord, ...	Cabarrus, ...	Not represented	..	..	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..	....	..	.....
Liberty Hill, ...	Stanly, ...	do do	..	0	..	..	..	0	..	..	..	..	....	..	.....
Mineral Springs,	do	G. H. Honeycutt, ...	2	7	2	..	2	2	..	13	21	..	34	1	20
Canton, ...	do	A. Borroughs, R. Almon, J. J. Whitley, ...	..	16	7	1	..	0	..	8	16	..	24		95
													772	$31	00

MINUTES

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Howell's Church, Cabarrus Co., N. C.,

OCTOBER 23D, 24TH, A. D. 1874.

MINUTES

OF THE

EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Howell's Church, Cabarrus Co., N. C.,

OCTOBER 23D, 24TH, A. D. 1874.

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COMPILED BY S. D. MANN.

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Salisbury:
J. J. BRUNER, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,
Nov. 21, 1874.

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PROCEEDINGS.

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HOWELL'S CHURCH, Oct. 23, A. D. 1874.

THE Association convened at the time and place appointed, Elder C. C. Foreman being absent until service began and also his alternate, Elder E. David preached the Introductory from the 12th Ps. and 6 vs; after which the benediction was pronounced.

Recreation of an hour.

The Association then assembled. The Moderator, Eld. E. C. Williams, opened by reading the 19th Ps. Hymn—"A charge to keep I have," &c. Prayer by Eld. Wm. Lambeth of Salisbury.

The letters of the different churches were then read, and the names of delegates recorded. An election was then held which resulted in favor of Elder E. C. Williams for Moderator; S. D. Mann, Clerk; and J. M. McCurdy, Treasurer.

Brethren of sister Associations were then invited to seats to participate in the deliberations of the Association.

Whereupon, Dr. W. T. Walters, of Wake Forest College, from the Central Association, came forward and was cordially

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received; and also Eld. J. W. Davis from the Brown Creek, and Eld. A. G. Caloway of the Rocky River.

Correspondents from sister Associations, were then called on to report.

Elder W. M. Johnson attended the Moriah, and was cordially received.

Revs. J. H. Burage and H. Sheets attended the Liberty, and were cordially received.

Elder J. W. Dunn attended the Pee Dee, and was ardently received.

Elder J. A. Bivens and Br. Ja. Small, attended the Brown Creek, and was warmly received.

Committees were then appointed as follows:

To preach on to-marrow—Eld. C. C. Foreman at 11 o'clock, A. M., and Eld. Wm. Lambeth at 2 o'clock, P. M.

On order of Business—Brethren S. S. Stone, E. H. Hinson, and Eld. W. W. Russell.

On Church Letters—Eld. E. David and Brethren W. R. Massey and E. H. Hinson.

On Requests and Querries—Brethren S. S. Stone, L. M. Clenny, J. W. Braswell.

On Finance—Brethren V. M. Carter, J. M. Braswell, and R. D. Gourley.

Resolved—That a Committee be appointed as follows: Rev. J. M. McCurdy and Brethren R. D. Gourley, S. S. Stone, J. S. Russell, and Eld. L. M. Clenny, to draft resolutions in order to support a Missionary operation in the bounds of this Association.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock, A. M. to-morrow.

SATURDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

The Moderator re-opened the Association by reading the 23d Ps. Hymn—"Our God how firm his promise stands," &c.

Prayer by Elder J. A. Bivens.

The report on arrangements was called for, received and adopted.

The Association then called for the reading of the Constitution and Rules of Order.

Resolved—That no brother be allowed to speak on any subject more than twice; and the time shall not exceed ten minutes without permission of the body.

Resolved—That Dr. W. T. Walters be allowed to address the Association on the momentous subject of the endowment of the Wake Forest College.

Correspondents appointed to visit sister Associations, were called on to report.

To the Moriah—No attendance.

To the Liberty—No attendance.

To the Pee Dee—No attendance.

To the Bulah—No attendance.

To the Brown Creek—Elder E. C. Williams attended, and was cordially received.

To the South Yadkin—Elders A. G. Caloway, and J. F. Hodge attended, and were cordially received.

Correspondents were then appointed for the ensuing year.

To the Moriah—Elders E. C. Williams and E. David.

To the Liberty—Brother R. D. Gourley, Revs. J. A. Gourley and A. G. Caloway.

To the Pee Dee—Elder C. C. Foreman, Brethren S. S. Stone, L. M. Clenny, E. B. Thomas and V. M. Carter.

To the Bulah—Revs. J. A. Gourley and J. M. McCurdy.

To the South Yadkin—Rev. J. M. McCurdy, Eld. E. C. Williams, Brethren R. D. Gourley and S. D. Mann.

To the Brown Creek—Eld. C. C. Foreman, Brethren E. B. Thomas and L. M. Clenny.

Essays were then called for, written on various subjects as follows:

On Periodicals—received and adopted.

On Sabbath Schools—received and adopted.

On Temperance—received and adopted after being warmly discussed by various persons.

Circular—no report.

On the objects of Convention—received and adopted.

On Systematic Benevolence—received and adopted.

The Report of the Committee on Missionary operations was received and adopted after being zealously discussed by various persons.

Resolved, That Brethren E. H. Hinson and J. S. Russell be added to the Executive Board.

Adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M.

Met according to adjournment.

The Association was then addressed by Dr. W. T. Walters upon the vital subject of the endowment of the Wake Forest College; after which a collection was taken up for that purpose to the amount of $16.85.

The Report on digest of Church Letters was received and adopted; and also the Finance and Treasurer's report.

Resolved, That the next meeting of this Association will convene with the Kendall's Church in Stanly county, commencing on Thursday before the fourth Sabbath in October 1875, and Elder W. M. Johnson to preach the Introductory.

Brethren were then appointed to write upon the various subjects, as follows:

On Periodicals—Brother W. R. Massey.

On Sabbath Schools—Brother R. D. Gourley.

On Temperance—Elder W. W. Russell.

Circular—Elder L. M. Clenny.

On objects of Convention—Rev. J. M. McCurdy.

On Systematic Benevolence—Brother S. S. Stone.

On Ministerial Support—Brother R. J. Morton.

Resolved, That this Association tender its heartfelt thanks to the members of the Howell's Church, and the friends of this community for their hospitality during the Session of this Association.

Resolved, That the Clerk Superintend the printing of the Minutes, and be allowed $8.00 for his services.

Resolved, That the Ministers of this Association go forth in the

Missionary work, immediately, and report at the next Session of this Association.

The Executive Board will meet on Saturday before the 3rd Sabbath in November, at the Mt. Olive Church, in order to carry into effect the design of the Committee on the Missionary operation. Adjourned.

Prayer by Eld. J. W. Davis. Hymn—"When I can read my title clear," &c.—Striking hands.

Benediction by Eld. Wm. Lambeth.

Thus ended the Eighth Anniversary of the Rocky River Baptist Association, held with the Howell's Church, Cabarrus county, N. C.

E. C. WILLIAMS, Moderator.

S. D. MANN, Clerk.

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[NOTE—The personal pledges made for Home Missions, Bro. McCurdy failed to hand to the Clerk, consequently they do not appear.

SABBATH EXERCISES.

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11 o'clock, A. M.

The exercises were opened by Dr. W. T. Walters, by reading the 19th chap of Mat. Hymn—"My soul forsakes her vain delight," &c. Prayer by Eld. W. M. Johnson. Hymn—"And must I part with all I have," &c. Preaching by Dr. W. T. Walters. Text—"And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands for my name's sake, shall receive a hundred fold, and shall inherit everlasting life." Hymn—"From Greenland's icy mountains," &c. A collection was taken up, for Home Missions, to the amount of $13.55.

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2 o'clock, P. M.

Hymn—"Go preach my gospel saith the Lord," &c. Eld. Wm. Lambeth preached from Acts v, 20. Text—"Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life." Prayer by Eld. W. M. Johnson. Benediction—E. David.

APPENDIX.

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REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

The Committee upon Periodicals, would cheerfully commend the *Biblical Recorder* to the hearty support of the Churches of this Association, as being fully worthy of the position claimed for it, as the organ of the Baptist Denomination of North Carolina. We would also urge on members to take the *Foreign Missionary Journal*, and *Kind Words* for the little ones. Respectfully submitted,

S. S. STONE, Chairman.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The undersigned being appointed at our last Association to write on Sabbath Schools, begs leave to submit the following: We believe the Sabbath School to be the best institution on earth except the Church of Christ. The wisest man that ever lived viz. King Soloman, said train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. First, We should bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; and we know of no better place than the Sabbath School for mental training, for they are there taught the fear of God, to read his word, to reverence his name, to keep his day holy, to know his will, to obey his laws, and love each other. They are there taught to sing God's praise, and are under the influence of exhortation and prayer, and taught the will of God concerning them, even the salvation of their immortal souls. Secondly, They are taught what they are by nature, poor lost sinners, and what they must be by grace, or never see God's face in peace. Also that God is a holy being, and cannot look on sin with the least degree of allowance, and will not hold them guiltless who take his name in vain. There they are taught the importance of remembering their Creator in the days of their youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when they shall say I have no pleasure in them. Thirdly, We believe the Sabbath School is a nursery for the church, and let every parent feel the importance of instructing their children in the Sabbath Schools, and other religious duties, knowing the awful responsibility that awaits us, if we neglect to do our whole duty as parents, &c. Brethren, let us bestir ourselves as co-workers together in the Sabbath School enterprise. Let us unite heart and hand in this great and glorious cause until Sabbath Schools are established all over this vast Empire, and until the voice of prayer and praise be heard from every nook and corner of our land and nation. May God bless every one engaged in the Sabbath School enterprise to earth's remotest bounds. All of which is respectfully submitted.

L. M. CLENNY.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

DEAR BRETHREN:

The Subject of Temperance claims our attention, again. But for the want of information, we are unable to say definitely what we are doing

as a denomination. But we fear that there are too many who claim to be christians who are using intoxicating drinks to excess. This ought not to be so. For God requires of us in his word, a total abstinence from all appearance of evil. Therefore, we would recommend a strict adherence to discipline, and to the true principles of christianity.

R. D. GOURLEY.

THE OBJECTS OF THE STATE CONVENTION.

This Association at its last meeting made it the business of the writer to tell, or rather to write, a short essay upon the objects of the Baptist State Convention, which we give in short. It is to combine, as much as possible, all the talent and energy of the different associations upon three great Enterprises of the Baptist within its bounds viz. Education, Home and Foreign Missions, with this also, feeling under obligations to give aid in the supply of feeble churches with the gospel, and to destitute sections not able to furnish themselves. We might say much upon the subject, but we will merely say any one wishing to know the design of the Convention may learn in full by attending one of its meetings. We would advise all if possible to attend its meeting in Wilmington in Nov. next. All of which is submitted.

E. C. WILLIAMS.

REPORT ON SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE.

DEAR BRETHREN:

This is a subject of vital importance to us, unparalled in magnitude, and well deserves our serious and prayerful consideration. 1st, In order to comprehend the subject more fully, we would observe its literal meaning which, we understand, means good will towards men; and in order to render it Systematic, we must adopt certain rules and regulations by which we are to be governed. 2ndly, We must endeavor, by the help of God, to eradicate from our minds all prejudices and envyings &c., that we may be enabled to inculcate true and genuine principles in our hearts, so that our contributions and acts of benevolence may be demonstrations not only outwardly, but also inwardly, that our alms may be acceptable before God. Therefore, let us do unto others as we would have them do unto us, and also to love our neighbor as ourselves, and thereby fulfill the law and the prophets. May God help us so to do, and to execute more discipline and christian benevolence in our churches, is my humble request. Amen!

S. D. MANN.

The Committee appointed to consider and mature some plan of missionary operation, would respectfully submit. 1st, Resolved, That the necessity, for missionary labor in the bounds of this Association, is truly great, and that we shall fail, in our duty as christians, unless we immediately put forth our best efforts to occupy these waste places.

2nd. *Resolved*, That the Executive Board be authorized to employ such portions of time of the ministers of this Association, as they may deem qualified for the work, at such wages as may be agreed upon, and earnestly and urgently prosecute the work during this associational year.

Respectfully submitted,

S. S. STONE, Chairman.

REPORT ON CHURCH LETTERS.

Your Committee on digest of letters, beg leave to report as follows:

Clear Creek—Some additions, but a need of much christian union. A Sabbath School in progress.

Mill Creek—In peace, also a Sabbath School.

Pleasant Grove—In peace among themselves and christian churches. No additions.

Howell's—In Union. None by baptism. A loss of three by death. No Sabbath School.

Mt. Olive—Quiet and peaceable.

Mt. Zion—Nothing of special interest. An addition of two by baptism.

Prospect—A glorious revival, with an addition of twelve by baptism. A flourishing Sabbath School.

Corinth—In peace.

New Hope—In peace.

Kendall's—A pleasant meeting of days. Eleven additions by baptism, and invites the next meeting of this body.

Silver Spring—A revival, and addition by baptism of ten persons.

Pleasant Hill—In peace and union, with an addition of four by baptism. A restoration of three.

Concord—In a languishing state.

Liberty Hill—Much revived. Three by baptism.

Mineral Spring—In union and love. Two added by baptism.

Canton—In peace, with an addition of seven members by baptism.

E. DAVID, Chirman.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, the Committee on finance, beg leave to report that we find $29.45 sent up by the different churches for the purpose of minutes.

Respectfully submitted, R. D. GOURLEY, Chairman.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

I would respectfully report, that from last year, there is $35.20 on hand, and for minutes this year, $29.45. Total, $64.65.

Respectfully Submitted. J. M. McCURDY.

CHURCHES, PASTORS, &C.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.
Clear Creek, ...	E. C. Williams, .	E. H. Hinson, ..	Clear Creek.
Mill Creek, ...	E. C. Williams, .	J. M. Braswell, .	Monroe.
Pleasant Grove, .	L. A. Whitlock,.	J. J. C. Efird, ..	Big Lick.
Howell's, ...	W. M. Johnson,.	R. D. Gourley,.	Pioneer Mills.
Mount Olive,...	J. W. Dunn,....	R. J. Morton,...	Big Lick.
Mount Zion, ...	W. W. Russell, .	J. E. Carter,....	Gold Hill.
Prospect, ...	B. H. Carter, ...	S. D. Mann, ...	Albemarle.
Corinth, ...	H. Morton, ...	J. F. Hodge, ...	Gold Hill.
New Hope, ...	A. H. Hill, ...	A. Kimery, ...	Norwood.
Kendall's, ...	W. W. Russell, .	J. M. Caloway, .	Kendall's Store,
Silver Spring,..	C. C. Foreman, .	M. M. Poplin, ..	Albemarle.
Pleasant Hill, ...	J. W. Phifer, ...	W. G. Thomas, .	Olive Branch.
Concord, ...	W. M. Johnson,.	.....	Concord.
Liberty Hill, ...	L. A. Whitlock,.	E. Laton,... ...	Albemarle.
Mineral Springs,.	E. P. Herrington,	H. H. Hinson, ..	Big Lick.
Canton, ...	B. H. Carter, ...	A. C. Burris, ...	Albemarle.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Sab. of preaching,	Baptized,	Received by letter,	Restored,	Dismissed by letter,	Expelled,	Dead,	White Males,	White Females,	Colored,	Total,	Minutes,	
Clear Creek,	Mecklenburg,	E. C. Williams, E. H. Hinson, W. R. Massey,	4	6	4	..	..	1	1	35	63	..	98	$1	70
Mill Creek,	Union,	J. M. Braswell, W. H. Braswell, J. S. James,	3	..	..	..	..	3	..	20	31	..	51	1	50
Pleasant Grove,	Stanly,	T. C. Burris, Q. A. Burris, F. Borrough,	2	..	1	..	1	1	..	14	32	..	46	1	50
Howell's,	Cabarrus,	J. M. McCurdy, A. H. Howell, R. D. Gourley,	2	..	..	..	2	..	3	12	20	2	34	3	00
Mount Olive,	Stanly,	R. J. Morton, J. S. Russell, John Hartsell,*	4	..	..	1	4	1	1	37	63	..	100	3	00
Mount Zion,	Rowan,	John E. Carter,	2	2	..	..	9	1	1	3	5	..	8	....	
Prospect,	Stanly,	V. M. Carter, S. D. Mann, J. L. Kerns,	3	12	3	..	..	3	..	35	60	1	96	5	00
Corinth,	Rowan,	J. A. Gourley, M. M. Kirk,* Marshall Jones,*	1	..	1	1	5	2	2	27	55	..	82	2	00
New Hope,	Stanly,	Thos. Morton,* R. D. Thompson,* A D Dees,*	4	1	..	..	..	..	..	11	20	1	32	1	00
Kendall's,	Do.	S. S. Stone, H. F. Freeman, W. W. Russell,	1	11	1	..	..	..	..	27	43	1	71	2	15
Silver Spring,	Do.	L. M. Clenny, D. R. W. Harward,* Jno. Smith,	1	10	1	..	1	4	..	38	44	..	82	2	00
Pleasant Hill,	Union,	J Burmingham,* E B Thomas, N G Thomas,	1	4	..	3	..	..	..	17	32	5	54	2	05
Concord,	Cabarrus,	M. W. Furgerson,	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	6	..	7	1	00
Liberty Hill,	Stanly,	By Letter,	3	3	..	2	..	..	1	6	7	..	13		60
Mineral Springs,	Do.	E. P. Herrington,	2	2	..	..	..	4	..	6	26	..	32	1	00
Canton,	Do.	Moses Bowers, J. M. Morton, Alfred Morton,	4	7	3	2	..	4	..	11	28	..	39	1	95
		*Absentees.													
				58									853	$29	45

NINTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Kendall's Church, Stanly Co., N. C.

OCTOBER 21, 22, 23, 1875.

MINUTES

OF THE

NINTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Kendall's Church, Stanly Co., N. C.

OCTOBER 21, 22, 23, 1875.

—o—

COMPILED BY S. S. STONE.

—o—

Salisbury:
J. J. BRUNER, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER,
Nov. 13, 1875.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

—o—

E. C. Williams,.....Clear Creek.
B. H. Carter, ...Albemarle.
C. C. Foreman,.....Big Lick.
L. M. Clenny, ...Big Lick.
W. W. Russell,...Kendall's Store.
A. G. Caloway,.....Albemarle.
G. O. Wilhoit,... ....Ansonville.
L. A. Whitlock,.....Albemarle.
W. M. Johnson,..... Clear Creek.
R. H. James, ...Olive Branch.
J. M. Wilkerson,.....Norwood.
J. P. Styers,.....Gold Hill.

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PROCEEDINGS.

—:o:—

KENDALL'S, Oct. 21, 1875.

THE ASSOCIATION met at the time and place appointed. The Introductory sermon was preached by Elder E. C. Williams, in the abscence of Elder W. M. Johnson, the appointee. Text, Isaiah liv, 13: "And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the reward of thy children."

After a short recess the Association re-assembled for business. The Moderator, E. C. Williams, opened by reading the 20th division of Psalms. Hymn: "'Tis religion that can give." Prayer by J. F. Hodge.

Letters from the various churches were read and the names recorded.

An election was then held which resulted in favor of E. C. Williams, for Moderator; S. S. Stone, Clerk; and J. M. Braswell, Treasurer.

Called for corresponding brethren from sister Associations; whereupon, Eld. G. W. Greene, from the Brushy Mountain; bro. W. Mason, from South Yadkin, presented them and were ardently received.

NcC
NcU

The following committees were appointed :

On Order of Business :—Elder E. C. Williams, bro. H. F. Freeman.
Periodicals :—S. S. Stone.
Church Letters :—J. F. Hodge, E. H. Hinson, and S. D. Mann.
Religious Exercises :—Elder W. W. Russell, and the Deacons of this church.
Finance :—A. H. Peeples, V. M. Carter, S. D. Mann.

On motion, adjourned till Friday, 10 o'clock, A. M.

Prayer, Elder Greene, leading.

——:——

FRIDAY, October 22, 10, A. M.

Services opened by reading 3d Epistle of John. Hymn: "O Lord, thy perfect word," &c. Prayer by Eld. Styers.

Roll called.

The report of Committee on Order of Business was called for, read and accepted.

Called for the reading of the Rules, which were read.

Visiting Ministers invited to seats. Elder J. W. Littleton accepted the invitation.

Reports from corresponding messengers to sister Associations were called for.

Elder E. C. Williams and E. P. Harrington, attended the Moriah.

Pee Dee, Liberty, South Yadkin, and Brown Creek, the appointees all failed to attend, and were all excused.

Elder W. M. Johnson presented himself as correspondent from Moriah, and was received.

Elders H. Morton and A. P. Stoker from Liberty were also received.

Corresponding messengers were appointed to sister Associations, as follows :

To Moriah :—Eld. E. C. Williams, R. C. Ogbourn.
To Liberty :—Elder E. C. Williams, J. F. Hodge, J. E. Carter, and Elder J. P. Styers.
To Pee Dee :—Elder B. H. Carter, J. Burmingham, S. D. Mann.

To Brown Creek:—Elders E. C. Williams, B. H. Carter, and breth. J. M. Brasswell, S. D. Mann.
To South Yadkin:—Elders A. G. Caloway, J. P. Styers, and breth. J. F. Hodge and J. Bohanan.
To Sandy Creek:—Elder A. G. Caloway, S. S. Stone, F. A. Layton, A. H. Peeples.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Report on queries and questions. See report.
" on Periodicals. See report.
" on Temperance. See report.
" on Systematic Benevolence. See report.
" on Circular Letters. See report—Circular Letter.

Appointed Elder W. M. Johnson to write a Circular Letter,

Delegates appointed to the Baptist State Convention, viz:
Elders E. C. Williams, W. M. Johnson.

Appointed additional members of the Executive Board, viz:
Elders W. W. Russell, W. M. Johnson.

First meeting of the Board to be Friday before the third Sabbath in November, at the Mt. Olive church.

On motion it was

Resolved, That in future delegates who fail to attend the Association their names shall not appear in the minutes.

Agreed to hold the next session with the church at Clear Creek, Mecklenburg county, Friday before the 4th Lord's day in September, 1876.

On motion, adjourned till Saturday morning, 10 o'clock.
Prayer by bro. Mason. Benediction by the Moderator.

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SATURDAY, Oct. 23.

The Association met according to adjournment. Opened by reading the Scriptures in Isaiah xii. Hymn: "Did Christ o'er sinners," &c. Prayer, Elder A. P. Stoker, leading.

Roll called. Minutes read and approved.

Appointed Elder L. A. Whitlock to preach the Introductory sermon, Elder J. P. Styers, alternate. Elder C. C. Foreman

to preach a Missionary sermon on Sabbath; Eld. W. M. Johnson, alternate.

On motion, the Clerk was directed to superintend the printing of the Minutes, and that he receive the usual compensation of $8.00 for the same.

The Association gave way at 11 o'clock for an address from Elder G. W. Greene and bro. Mason on the subject of Sabbath Schools.

Called on Missionaries to report: Elder W. W. Russell, and bro. J. M. McCurdy responded. See their reports.

Report on Finance submitted, and also appended.

The Executive Board was directed to procure the services of Elder P. C. Conoly to travel and preach within the bounds of this Association, if the necessary funds be collected.

A vote of thanks was tendered to the kind brethren and friends in the vicinity of Kendall's church for their very liberal hospitality towards the delegates and visitors attending the Association.

On motion, adjourned to the time and place appointed.
Prayer, bro. Mason leading. Benediction by H. Morton.

Sabbath Exercises.

—o—

SABBATH, 11 o'clock, A. M.

A large congregation assembled at the stand in the grove, and Elder E. C. Williams read the hymn, "Plunged in a gulf of deep despair, We wretched sinners lay," &c. After singing and prayer, then was read the 16th chap. St. Mark—text, 15th verse—"And he said unto them, go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

At the close of the sermon, while the congregation sang "From Greenland's icy mountains," a collection was taken up for the objects of Home and Foreign Missions and Education, amounting to $10.70. Recess of one hour.

EVENING.

Elder W. M. Johnson preached at the stand: Text—"The rich and poor meet together; the Lord is the maker of them all." Prov. xxii, 2.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Sabbath	Baptized.....	Rec'd by Letter	Restored.....	Dismissed....	Expelled	Dead	White Males ..	White Females	Colored.....	Total	Minutes.....	
Clear Creek,...	Mecklenburg ..	E. C. Williams, E. H. Hinson, R. C. Ogbourn,		5			1	1		34	64		98	$3	00
Mill Creek,....	Union	J. M. Braswell, J. C. Austin, W. C. Simpson,	3				5	5	1	18	28		46	1	75
Pleasant Grove,	Stanly	D. M. Burris, Mccamy Willis, F. Burris.	2						1	13	31		44	1	55
Howell's,.....	Cabarrus	W. M. Johnson.												2	50
Mt. Olive,.....	Stanly	W. Smith, W. J. Russell.				1		1		37	62		99	3	00
Mt. Zion,.....	Rowan.....	J. E. Carter.	2	1			1			3	6		9		56
Prospect,.....	Stanly	S. D. Mann, V. M. Carter, A. H. Peeples.	3	5	1			1	1	35	60	1	96	2	10
Corinth, ...	Rowan.....	J. Bohannan, J. F. Hodge.	1		3		1	1	1	26	52		78	2	25
New Hope,....	Stanly	A. D. Dees, J. Whittington.	4				1	1		11	19	1	31	1	00
Kendall's, ...	do	S. S. Stone, A. S. Miller, H. F. Freeman.	1				1	2		24	44		68	3	00
Silver Spring..	do	I. D. J. Lowder, M. M. Poplin.	1	16			2	5	1	35	56		91	2	20
Pleasant Hill..	Union	A. H. Griffin, J. Burmingham.	1				5			17	32		49	1	55
Concord,.....	Cabarrus.....	Not represented.													
Liberty Mill, ..	Stanly	F. A. Layton, J. D. Maulden.	4	10						9	14		23	1	25
Mineral Spring,	do	E. P. Harrington, G. H. Huneycutt,	2					4					28		50
Canton, ...	do	D. E. Huneycutt, Moses Bowers.	4	1	1			4		10	25		35		45
Gold Hill,... .	Rowan.....	L. Lewis, J. H. Morgan, J. P. Styers.		11	6			1		14	21		35	1	00
				49									832	$27	60

APPENDIX.

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REPORT ON CHURCH LETTERS.

Clear Creek—seems to be in a flourishing condition; has a flourishing Sabbath School.

Mill Creek—states nothing special.

Pleasant Grove—states nothing special.

Howell's—states nothing of special interest.

Mt. Zion—reports hardly able to keep house.

Prospect—has had a gracious revival and has a prosperous Sabbath School.

Corinth—nothing encouraging—seems to be on the decline.

New Hope—nothing special—seems to be at a stand-still.

Kendall's—no addition, a good Sabbath School and a weekly prayer meeting.

Silver Spring—has had a gracious revival with a large addition, and has a flourishing Sabbath School.

Pleasant Hill—seems to be declining.

Concord—not represented.

Mineral Springs—does not report its spiritual condition.

Canton—does not seem to be advancing.

Liberty—has had a gracious revival and a large addition.

Gold Hill—seems to be in a flourishing condition.

Respectfully submitted,

S. D. MANN.

REPORT ON QUERIES AND QUESTIONS.

Your Committee on Queries and Questions report, that we find nothing claiming our attention, except a petition from Clear Creek church, for the Association to convene with them at its next session.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. STYERS.

REPORT ON SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE.

There is no duty more positively enjoined than that of systematic benevolence, and the weight of its authority is directly from God.

By reference to the Levitical law, we find that this duty was enforced by legal enactment: One-tenth of each citizen's gross income had to be paid into the treasury of the state, which included all the expenses of church and state. Under the Christian dispensation the system assumed a more enlarged and liberal element, the coercive being merged into the

voluntary; the systematic feature being more distinctly drawn and defined.

The Jewish law specifically required that "they that minister at the altar, shall partake of the things of the altar." Here was the decisive requirement, and implicit obedience was observed.

In the new dispensation it was enjoined—"Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him, that there be no gathering when I come."

Whenever our people learn and cultivate this principle of systematic benevolence, the more abundantly then, indeed, will our languishing Zion revive, and the moral forces of the churches become more effectual in winning souls to Christ, and magnifying the divine glory.

Brethren, the demands on us are imperative, and come to us clothed with the sanctity of ages and the authority of God. Look over the various fields, such as the Foreign and Domestic Missions; the Bible, the Tract and Sunday School enterprizes, the wintry fields within the bounds of our own Association. Many, very many are perishing for lack of knowledge. Let us awake, my brethren, to a more earnest sense of our duty; let us resolve, by the grace of God, to be more regular, punctual, and liberal in the bestowal of our means, remembering that God loves the cheerful giver, and hath promised that "the liberal soul shall be made fat." Let us by the divine blessing cultivate system, and out of the means, more or less, that we may acquire, appropriate a fair proportion to the demands and interest of the church and suffering humanity, being well assured that, if we "sow freely we shall reap bountifully," and verily have our reward. The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few.

The churches must, and we hope will, wake up to a sense of their duty. Let our ministers raise the warning voice—"cry aloud and spare not"—then indeed the day will soon dawn upon us when the fulfillment of prophecy shall be realized; when the wilderness and solitary places shall be made glad for them, and the desert rejoice and blossom as the rose.

Respectfully submitted,

S. S. STONE.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

We regard a religious paper as indispensable in every christian family. At the present low rates of subscription none need be without a religious periodical. In our opinion the professor of religion who takes one or more agricultural or political papers and neglects the religious paper, acts injudiciously, and virtually says to the world, these subjects claim more of my attention than religion. We believe our religious periodicals do more to disseminate religious knowledge, to cultivate a liberal spirit of christian benevolence and to promote the general interest of the denomination than any other means of the same cost. Therefore we ought strenuously to endeavor to have some good paper visiting every family within our reach. Let us have a large club for the *Recorder* from every church in the Rocky River Association. We would also call your attention to the *Baptist*, a religious paper published in Nashville, Tenn., edited by J. R. Graves.

Respectfully submitted,

S. S. STONE.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

What is the christian duty in relation to the use of ardent spirits, is a

question of the utmost importance. It is conceded that intemperance is a powerful and wide spread evil. Its ravages are seen in the public councils as well as in private circles, and felt in all grades of society. Can we cry down drunkenness and still favor a practice which unavoidably leads to that vice? Can we consistently condemn drunkenness and yet tolerate moderate drinking? As long as moderate drinking is fashionable drunkenness will prevail in our land; and who can tell precisely where one stops and the other begins? All the feelings excited by the use of this article, whether it be moderate or excessive, are directly in opposition to the spirit of christianity. While the feelings are under the control of alcohol, the life and vigor of christianity are either extinct or shine with so dim a light as not to be recognized as the light of the world. We would recommend that every christian stop, and pause, and and reflect; and with due regard to the interest of his fellow-men, ask himself the question, what is my duty in reference to this dangerous habit? For no drunkard shall inherit the kingdom of God. Drink no wine whereby thy brother stumbleth. And the Lord spake unto Aaron, saying, do not drink wine nor strong drink, nor thy sons, lest you die.

Respectfully submitted, W. W. RUSSELL.

MISSIONARY REPORT.

Missionary labor performed during the past year in the destitute sections of our Association, from June till the meeting of the Association, viz: Traveled 27 days; preached 20 sermons; baptized 2 persons; contributions received in Albemarle, $5.70; at Kendall's church, $6.70; at Mt. Olive, 50 cts. Total, $12.95. W. W. RUSSELL.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Balance on hand,	$35 10	
Collected,	3 25	$38 35
Paid W. W. Russell		17 00
Balance in Treasury		$21 35

J. M. McCURDY, Treasurer.

CIRCULAR.

Dear Brethren: Through the mercy of an Allwise God we are again permitted to meet together at the place appointed for holding the ninth anniversary of our Association; and as it has pleased God in his Allwise providence to spare many of our almost unprofitable lives to meet on this memorable occasion, let us return our most humble and heart-felt thanks to him as the giver of all our mercies, and implore his grace to assist us in all our deliberations. So may we be the better prepared for the promotion of our Redeemer's cause and kingdom on earth; and all for his glory and for the welfare of the human race. Let us work while it is day, for the night cometh when none can work. We have a great work to do and but a short time to perform that work in; for the days of life will soon be past and death will come. Then 'twill be too late; for there is no device nor work in the cold grave whither we are hastening. Then, whatsoever thy hands find to do, do it with thy might. Let the Sabbath day be sacredly observed, for it is impossible for religion to thrive in the heart if this be abused; for God has said remember

the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Never no frivolus excuse to keep you away from the Lord's supper; for it is a fearful indication of guilt where there is a disposition on our part to neglect this last pledge of Christ's love to his church. "Do this in remembranee of me." Let us always attend our own church,—be in our own place. Let no worldly excuse prevent us from attending our regular church meetings. Absence from them greatly endangers our spiritual interest. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as we see the day approaching. Never leave your own meeting for any attraction of novelty in another. He that leaveth his own place is like the bird that wandereth from his nest. Make it a point of conscienee regularly and systematically to do something for Jesus' sake; for he has done so much for us, who died to redeem us. We are not our own; he bought us with a price. Seek the union of the church, pray for the peace of Jerusalem; they shall prosper who love her courts. We should cherish a sincere and constant attachment to all her members, and see that we love each other with pure hearts fervently; rendering to each other that affectionate respect that belongs to age, character and station. For as we have many members in one body, and all have not the same office, so we being many are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Let us discountenance both by precept and example that miserable habit of evil speaking, one of another, and all unprofitable conversation. If any one among you seemeth to be religious and bridleth not his tongue, this man's religion is vain. We should be careful always to put the softest and kindest construction on each other's conduct we possibly can. Whenever an evil report is circulated against a brother or sister, always regard them as innocent till proven to be guilty, and in doubtful cases give them the benefit of the doubt. Don't make them an offender for a word. Be slow to give an offence. If it be possible as much as lieth in you live peaceably with all. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which none shall see the Lord. Abstain from everything that is positively evil, and from things of doubtful tendency. Abstain from all appearance of evil. All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets. And if you are a parent remember how solemn are the responsibilities resting upon you to bring up your children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. If a child, forget not to honor thy parents. Be watchful unto prayer, lest you say or do things foolishly, or imprudently, which may hurt your influence as a christian, or injure the cause of Christ. Beloved, be ye the sons of God, without rebuke in this wicked and perverse generation. We beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord; for they watch for your souls as they that must give an account, that they may do it with joy and not regret. Esteem them for their work sake, and with vigilance guard their reputation, remembering that they are frequently accused falsely. They are men of like passions with ourselves. Pure religion and undefiled, before God, is to visit the sick in their affliction, and to keep ourselves unspotted from the world. Let us confess our faults and pray for each other. Finally, brethren, pray for us. Be ye perfect, and of one mind. Live in peace, and the God of love and peace shall be with you.

Respectfully submitted,

L. M. CLENNY.

MINUTES

—OF THE—

FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

—OF THE—

Rocky River Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH THE—

MILL CREEK CHURCH, UNION COUNTY, N. C.,

OCTOBER 22ND AND 23RD, 1880.

Compiled by R. J. MORTON, Clerk.

MONROE, N. C.:
PRINTED BY W. J. BOYLIN, AT THE EXPRESS JOB OFFICE,
1880.

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OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

MODERATOR:

E. C. Williams,	Matthews,	North Carolina.

CLERK:

R. J. Morton,	Big Lick,	North Carolina.

TREASURER:

J. M. Braswell,	Monroe,	North Carolina.

HOME MISSION BOARD.

L. C. Morton,	Matthews,	North Carolina.
J. M. Braswell,	Monroe,	" "
E. H. Hinson,	Mint Hill,	" "
John Hartsell,	Big Lick,	" "
J. Buchanan,	Pool,	" "
F. A. Laten,	Albemarle,	" "
R. J. Morton,	Big Lick,	" "
H. V. Massey,	Matthews,	" "

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

E. C. Williams,	Matthews,	North Carolina.
W. M. Johnson,	Charlotte,	" "
J. F. Hodge,	Gold Hill,	" "
E. P. Harrington,	Efird's Mill,	" "
A. G. Calaway,	Albemarle,	" "
W. W. Russell,	"	" "
L. A. Whitlock,	"	" "
L. M. Clenny,	"	" "
W. G. Morton,	"	" "

LICENTIATES.

J. C. Clenny,	Heilig's Mills,	North Carolina.
W. H. Huneycutt,	Calvin,	" "
R. C. Ogburn,	Clear Creek,	" "
E. A. Hartsell,	Big Lick,	"

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PROCEEDINGS.

MILL CREEK CHURCH, Oct. 22nd, 1880.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. F. Hodge; text, Revelations 21st chapter and 7th verse, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son."

Took a recess for dinner.

Reassembled at 1 P. M.

The meeting was opened by Elder E. C. Williams reading psalm 26th. Hymn, "How sweet, how Heavenly, is the light," &c. Prayer by Elder A. C. Davis.

The letters from the various churches were called for and read, and the names of delegates enrolled, as follows:

CLEAR CREEK—R. H. James, Hilton Robertson, W. A. J. Hough.
PLEASANT GROVE—Q. A. Burris, F. Burris, R. Hinson.
MILL CREEK—J. M. Braswell, I. A. Clontz, N. W. Braswell.
HOWELL'S—W. M. Johnson, J. M. McCurdy.
MT. OLIVE—L. C. Pond, J. S. Russell, R. J. Morton.
MT. ZION—Not represented.
PROSPECT—W. A. Marks, L. H. Mason, L. Lowder.
CORINTH—J. F. Hodge.
KENDALL'S—A. G. Calaway, J. P. Pickler, R. P. Lentz.
CANTON—Moses Bowers, D. E. Huneycutt, Israel Whitley.
LIBERTY HILL—C. G. Laten, F. A. Laten, J. A. Marks.
CONCORD—Not represented.
PLEASANT HILL—A. H. Griffin, J. J. Love, J. M. Burmingham.
MINERAL SPRING—E. P. Harrington, J. W. Huneycutt.
SILVER SPRING—L. M. Clenny, J. W. Whitley, S. M. Mauldin.
GOLD HILL—W. J. Johnson.
MATTHEWS—H. V. Massey, W. P. Williams, E. C. Williams.
POPLIN'S GROVE—I. D. J. Lowder, S. M. McLester, J. A. Morton.
EBENEZER—R. S. Reader, S. J. Rowell, T. A. Price.
ARLINGTON—E. H. Hinson, E. H. Williams, M. A. Doulin.
NEW SALEM———

An election was then held, resulting in the election of E. C. Williams, Moderator, R. J. Morton, Clerk, and J. M. Braswell, Treasurer.

A call for churches wishing to join the Association was made; whereupon Arlington church was received on the presentation of a letter and petition.

NcC
NcU

An invitation to corresponding messengers was made, whereupon C. Austin, A. C. Davis and H. B. King came forward and were cordially received, as messengers from the Brown Creek Association. H. Morton as a visitor from the Liberty Association was also received.

The following committees were then appointed:

On Church Letters—W. M. Johnson, J. F. Hodge, L. M. Clenny.

On Temperance—H. V. Massey, J. M. McCurdy.

On Sunday Schools—E. H. Hinson, E. P. Harrington.

On Periodicals—L. C. Pond, J. M. Braswell.

On Missions—E. C. Williams.

On Order of Business—J. M. Braswell with Deacons of the church.

On Finance—H. V. Massey, J. M. Braswell, H. Robertson.

On motion, the committee appointed to investigate the difficulty in Prospect church, was called on to report. The report was read and referred to Saturday, 9 :30 A. M., for consideration.

On motion, adjourned to Saturday, 9 A.M. Prayer by L. M. Clenny.

Saturday, 9 O'clock, A. M.

The Moderator called the Association to order and read Psalm 27. Hymn, "How can I sink with such a prop;" prayer by Elder J. F. Hodge.

Again a call for corresponding messengers was made, whereupon D. A. Snider and J. A. Bivenes, from the Brown Creek, and A. T. Latta, from the Moriah, came forward and were welcomed to seats with us.

At 9 :30 A. M., the report in regard to the Prospect difficulty was re-read, as follows:

The Committee of Investigation appointed by the Rocky River Association, to visit Prospect Church, Stanly county, N. C., report as follows: That after carefully examining church record and all other evidence obtainable, we agreed without a disputing voice or moment's argument, that Elder B. H. Carter has just cause to prefer grievance; that the proceedings against him by Elder Morton and party in his exclusion was unscriptural, illegal, and not according to Baptist usage, and that said party are in error; therefore, your committee agreed to sustain Elder B. H. Carter.

Respectfully submitted,

H. V. MASSEY, Chairman,
M. H. LINDSEY, Secretary,
W. P. WILLIAMS,
J. M. BRASWELL,
J. C. HELMS,
Committee.

On motion, the report was received and adopted.

The messengers appointed to visit the various sister Associations were called on to report.

H. V. Massey attended the Moriah; J. F. Hodge and A. G. Calaway, attended the Liberty; R. H. James attended the Brown Creek; all were warmly received.

The following messengers were then appointed to attend the various Associations:

To the Moriah: R. V. Massey, W. M. Johnson, E. C. Williams and J. S. Rowell.

To the Liberty: J. F. Hodge and E. C. Williams.

To the Pee Dee: L. M. Clenny.

To the Brown Creek: H. V. Massey, J. M. Braswell, L. M. Clenny and J. S. Rowell.

South Yadkin: J. M. McCurdy and E. P. Harrington.

The various committees were called on to report.

On Temperance—Read and received.

On Sunday Schools—Read and received.

Recess and dinner.

Reassembled.

Report of Executive Board (verbally) received.

On Missions—Read and received

On Periodicals—Read and received.

On Church Letters—Read and received.

Just here Mt. Olive and Kendall's churches withdrew and disclaimed any further connection with the Association, inasmuch as the Association has refused to further recognize the Prospect church, and has instead received as a church some of Prospect's expelled members, to wit: B. H. Carter and others. Mt. Olive church also extended an invitation to all other churches wishing to withdraw to meet with her by delegation on Saturday before the 3d Sabbath in December, 1880.

Matthews church calls for a letter of dismission. Granted.

The Association agrees to met at her usual time next year with Silver Spring church, Stanly county, N. C.

The Executive Board was again appointed to their duty to do the unfinished business of the Association.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mill Creek church for the kind manner in which she has entertained the Association.

On motion, a church by the name of New Salem, was received into this body.

On motion, adjourned. Prayer by J. M. McCurdy.

E. C. WILLIAMS, MODERATOR,

R. J. MORTON, Clerk.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON CHURCH LETTERS.

Your Committee on Church Letters beg leave to submit the following:

Clear Creek has had a revival and is in a prosperous condition; has a Sabbath school.

Mill Creek has a Sabbath school, but has nothing special.

Pleasant Grove sends nothing, but is at peace.

Howell's feels to be revived, and highly recommends the mission cause.

Mt. Olive is in a prosperous condition; has a Sabbath school and weekly prayer meeting.

Prospect had a good revival, with 5 additions and has a Sabbath school.

Corinth has had a revival, with some additions.

Kendall's is at peace; has a Sabbath school.

Silver Springs is at peace with each other and sister churches. This has been a year of trial, but somewhat revived.

Mineral Springs is at peace; has had a protracted meeting with good results.

Canton is in peace; no additions.

Matthews has had a revival, with 22 additions by baptism; has a Sabbath school and prayer meeting and asks for a letter of dismission from your body.

Gold Hill has nothing special; asks help to pay for their house.

Concord is still alive and tryingto work. The Lord has blessed them this year.

Pleasant Hill—nothing special; has a Sabbath school.

Poplin's Grove has a Sabbath school and has ordained W. J. Morton.

Ebeneezer fells to be encouraged.

Liberty Hill—nothing special; has a Sabbath school.

Arlington has had a revival with 21 additions and wishes a missionary kept in the field and will pay their part.

W. M. JOHNSON, Chairman.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

We believe that our people are in great need of religious instruction, and that the hindering cause of our progress as an Association, is not that we are too stingy or too poor to contribute something of our means to the cause of Christ; but, that we do not see and feel the importance of making such contributions and sacrifices to the cause that we ought. We need to be taught just what to do and when to do it.

and in order that we may obtain this information and become more steadfast in the faith and that we may prove our faith by our works, we recommend that every family connected with the different churches of this Association support our Baptist State organ, the Biblical Recorder, Rev. C. T. Bailey, editor. Terms, 1 year, $2.00, 6 months, $1.00, 3 months, 50 cts. Address Edwards, Broughton & Co., Raleigh, N. C. We further recommend that our Sunday schools and children be supplied with Kind Words, published at Macon, Ga. Terms for weekly, 1 year, $1.00, 10 copies, $6.00; monthly, 25 cts., 10 copies $1.50. Address S. Boykin, Macon, Georgia.

Respectfully submitted, L. C. POND, Chairman.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Abhor that which is evil, Romans, 12th chapter and 9th verse. We understand the word temperance to mean moderate indulgence of the appetites, and if this was properly observed by the church of God greater good would follow, but we fear that among many other evils of the present day that drunkenness is greatly on the increase, and in the fifth chapter of Gallatians it is summed up with all the abominable characters that shall not inherit the kingdom of God; and we would recommend the Rocky River Association to take a firm stand against this great evil.

J. M. McCURDY,
H. V. MASSEY.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Your Treasurer reports as follows:

For Home Missions	$100 40
For Minutes	25 95
	$125 35

J. M. BRASWELL, Treasurer.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY LABORS IN THE ROCKY RIVER ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR 1880.

October 18th, 1880.

Dear Brethren:—In compliance with the appointment of the Board I commenced labor the 13th of December. In search of my field of labor I passed th ough Cabarrus and a part of Rowan counties; I found a large portion of these counties destitute; I found it to be a very inviting field of labor. I spent ten days in that portion. I visited several families, spoke to them of my mission, conversed with them on the subject of religion, was kindly received by many who

kindly invited me to visit them and preach for them. I spent ten days, preached two sermons, made some points at which I have preached regular this year to large and attentive congregations. The word seemed to have a good effect on many. I visited the most of the churches, laid the cause of missions before them, the most of them seemed to be stirred up to the great work of sending the gospel throughout our bounds. I have spent 125 days in the service of the board, preached 125 sermons, visited 20 families, held religious conversation and prayer, baptised 25, assisted in organizing two churches, traveled 1665 miles. Received from Clear Creek church, $8.50; Poplin's Grove, $2.45; Corinth, $5.25; from J. M. Braswell, Treasurer, by order $8.00; W. B. Williams, 50 cts.; total $24.60. All of which is respectfully submitted. E. C. WILLIAMS.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

We, your committee on finance, beg leave to submit the following:

CHURCHES.	HOME MISSIONS.	MINUTES.
Clear Creek,	6 50	3 00
Pleasant Grove,	6 75	
Mill Creek,	10 15	1 05
Howell's,	4 00	1 00
Mt. Olive,		2 00
Prospect,	10 00	2 00
Corinth,	2 25	1 35
Kendall's,		1 45
Silver Spring,		2 00
Liberty Hill,	1 45	75
Concord,		1 00
Pleasant Hill,		1 50
Mineral Spring,		75
Canton,	2 25	1 05
Matthew's,	10 00	2 15
Poplin's Grove,		50
Ebeneezer,	12 00	1 65
Arlington,	9 00	2 00
Gold Hill,	2 50	50
Total,	76 85	25 70

H. V. MASSEY,
J. M. BRASWELL,
H. ROBERTSON.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to say that many essays have been written on the subject of Sabbath schools and much said about it in the Association; but let us look back and see what Sabbath schools have done, and then see what the rising generation

might have been to day with a good evergreen Sabbath school. Let us look forward to the prospect of the rising generation. We are taught to raise up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and when they get old they will not depart therefrom. We would advise each member to engage in Sabbath schools. We find generally where there is a good Sabbath school the church is generally in a prosperous condition. We find many of the churches in the Rocky River Association without Sabbath schools. We hope that each church in the Association will ask itself, have we got a Sabbath school or not? Is our church in a prosperous condition or not? Can we improve ourselves by having a Sabbath school or not? All of which is humbly submitted. E. H. HINSON, Chairman.

RULES OF ORDER

1. The meetings of the Associaton shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. No motion shall claim the attention of the Association or Moderator unless it has a second; nor shall it be opened for discussion until formally announced by the Moderator.

3. When the motion has been made and regularly announced by the Moderator, no other motion shall be received, except to amend, to substitute or lay on the table, or to postpone definitely or indefinitely. But a motion for adjournment shall always be in order, except when a member is engaged in speaking or the body in voting.

4. When a member wishes to speak on any question he shall rise in his place and address the Moderator. If two or more shall rise at the same time, the Moderator shall determine who has the floor; and no member shall speak more than twice on the same question, unless by permission of the body.

5. All questions of order shall be contested by the Moderator, or any member of the Association, and shall be determined by the Moderator, subject to an appeal to the body.

6. All motions for the adoption of the body shall be submitted in writing, if required.

7. If a member shall absent himself from the Association without permission from the body, he shall be under censure, and his name shall appear on the minutes as an absentee. This rule shall not be set aside except to meet extra cases.

STANDING RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That we correspond with sister Associations by letter or minutes, and that any member of our Association being present at the session of any other, with which we correspond, and presenting a copy of our last year's minutes containing his name, may represent us in that Association, and shall, in behalf of the body, solicit correspondence.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERKS' P. O.		Sabbath of preaching.	Baptised.	Rec. by letter.	Restored.	Dismissed.	Expelled.	Dead.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Clear Creek....	R. H. James....	J. A. Williams	Mint Hill,	N. C.	4th	27	2	3	14	4	1	55	78	133
Pleasant Grove	Clerk failed to get the letter....													
Mill Creek.....	D. A. Snider...	C. H. Braswell	Monroe,	"	3rd	1				1		35	39	74
Howell's.....	E. C. Williams	J. M. McCurdy	Flow's Store,	"	2nd			1				10	20	30
Mount Olive...	U. F. Hathcock	J. H. Walters..	Big Lick,	"	3rd	3			4	1		36	77	113
Mount Zion.....	Not represented													
Prospect	B. H. Carter....	W. A. Marks...	Bilesville,	"		4		1				35	71	106
Corinth	Clerk failed to get the letter..													
Kendall's.....	H. Morton ...	J. M. Calloway	Bilesville,	"	1st	8	1			3	2	25	45	70
Canton	Clerk failed to get the letter..													
Liberty Hill....	Clerk failed to get the letter..													
Concord	Represented by letter only.....					2						3	7	10
Pleasant Hill...	B. H. Carter....	L. F. Austin....	Ento,	"	1st	3	1	2	4	1		15	46	61
Mineral Spring	W. H. Honeycutt	John Brooks....	Big Lick,	"	2nd	3	5	1	3	1		9	25	34
Silver Spring..	C. C. Foreman.	J. Q. Foreman.	Foard,	"	1st	1	1	1	6	6		37	64	101
Gold Hill.....	J. F. Hodge.....	L. D. McCarn.	Gold Hill,	"	3rd				2		1	7	14	21
Matthews.....	Clerk failed to get the letter..													
Poplin's Grove	J. R. Littleton	E. E. Hopkins.	Albemarle,	"	3rd	4				2		11	16	27
Ebeneezer.....	Clerk failed to get the letter..													
Arlington	Clerk failed to get the letter..													
New Salem....	H. B. King.....	J. G. King.....	Monroe,	"		1						5	6	11
						57	10	9	33	19	4	283	508	791

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Pleasant Grove Church, Stanly County, N. C.,

October 19th, 20th, and 21st, 1882.

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Pleasant Grove Church, Stanly County, N. C.,

October 19th, 20th, and 21st, 1882.

Compiled by

F. M. HINSON.

Charlotte, N. C.:
PRINTED BY JOHN HIRST, COMMERCIAL AND GENERAL PRINTER.
1883.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

R. H. James, Moderator, Euto, N. C.
F. M. Hinson, Clerk, Arlington, N. C.
J. M. Biswell, President, Monroe, N. C.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

E. H. Hinson. R. C. Ogburn. S. J. Rowell.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

NAMES.	POST OFFICE.
E. C. Williams,	Mathews
B. H. Carter,	Albemarle
C. C. Foreman,	Big Lick
J. F. Hodge,	Pool
L. A. Whitlock,	Albemarle
B. S. Reader,	Raywood
R. H. James,	Euto
E. P. Harrington,	Efird's Mills
J. C Denny	Gold Hill
L. M. Clenny,	Ford
G. W. Morton,	Big Lick
W. C. Owen,	Arlington
W. H. Huneycutt,	Whitley
A. H. Hill,	Cedar Hill

LICENTIATES.

J. M. McCurdy,	Flow's Store
R. C. Ogburn	Clear Creek
J. E. Rowell,	Raywood

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MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

Held with the Pleasant Grove Church, StanlyCounty, N. C., October 19th, 20th, and 21st, 1882.

Proceedings.

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, N. C.,

OCTOBER 19TH, 1882.

THE Association met with the above-named place pursuant to adjournment. Elder R. H. James preached the introductory from the 33rd division of the Psalms, and of that the 3rd verse. Text: "Sing unto him a new song; play skilfully with a loud noise." Hymn: "I love thy kingdom, Lord."

After half-an-hour's recess, re-assembled. The Moderator, Elder E. C. Williams, being absent, Elder R. H. James was called to the chair, pro tem. Hymn: "There is a fountain filled with blood." Prayer by Brother M. W. Ferguerson. Revs. J. M. McCurdy and R. C. Ogburn were appointed to read letters.

NcC
NcU

Letters from the various churches were read, and names of delegates recorded as follows:

Clear Creek: R. C. Ogburn; J. W. Blackman, R. H. James.
Mill Creek: J. M. Braswell, G. W. Hagler, Joab Griffin.
Pleasant Grove: D. Burrough, R. H. Hinson, J. J. C. Efird.
Prospect: B. H. Carter, W. A. Marks, J. E. Morris.
Corinth: D. A. Cetchey, M. L. Hodge.
Canton: Henry Rodgers, R. Burrough, D. E. Huneycutt.
Anderson's Grove: F. A. Laton, W. E. Marks.
Mineral Springs: G. H. Huneycutt, J. E. Hinson.
Silver Springs: F. W. Wilhoit, L. M. Clenny.
Ebenezer: T. A. Price, J. E. Rowell.
Arlington: E. H. Hinson, F. M. Hinson, J. A. Estridge.
New Salem: D. A. King, J. H. King.
Hopewell: Not represented.
Howells: J. M. McCurdy, A. L. Howell, M. L. Little.
Concord: M. W. Ferguerson.
Barbe's Grove: J. D. Cresco, G. L. Endy, J. M. Barbee.
Pleasant Hill: Jno. Birmingham, A. H. Griffin, Jos. Perry.
Mt. Zion: John E. Carter.
Gold Hill: Not represented.
Chaney's Hill: W. C. Austin, J. T. Burrough.

An election was then held, which resulted in electing R. H. James Moderator, F. M. Hinson Clerk, and J. M. Braswell Treasurer.

Adjourned till half-past 9 to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20.

The brethren spent half an hour in a praise meeting, conducted by Rev. J. M. McCurdy. At a little past 10 o'clock the Association was opened by the moderator reading a portion of Scripture. Prayer, Elder B. H. Carter leading. Roll was called. Minutes of yesterday were read and approved. Letters of any churches seeking admission were requested to be presented. Bro. E. H. Hinson offered one from New Hope, but the delegate not being present, a motion was accepted to postpone action till to-morrow, 10 a.m.

Corresponding messengers and visiting ministers were called for, whereupon Brother J. C. James, of Brown Creek, and Elder J. B. Boon, of South Yadkin, representing the Biblical Recorder, were cordially received and invited to aid us in our deliberations.

The committe to write for this term were appointed as follows :

On Church Letters : J. M. Braswell, assisted by E. H. Hinson.

On Finances : R. C. Ogburn, assisted by M. W. Ferguerson.

On Temperance : J. M. McCurdy, assisted by J. T. Burrough,

On Sabbath School : M. W. Ferguerson.

On Periodicals : E. H. Hinson.

On Education : E. R. Burrough, assisted by D. Burrough.

Here the house called upon Elder Boon to preach the 11 o'clock sermon. After singing "Alas ! and did my Savior bleed," he preached an interesting and instructive sermon from the text, "Wherefore he is able to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them."—Heb. 7 : 25. We liked his happy style, and those who did not hear it missed an intellectual treat. Prayer by Bro. Braswell.

Recess, half-an-hour for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order, singing "Come ye that love the Lord." Prayer, Rev. Ogburn. Report on order of business was read, amended, and received. Report on Sabbath Schools, being read, was discussed by Elder Boon, Rev. McCurdy, and others, and adopted, as follows :

"SABAATH SCHOOL REPORT.—Your Committee on Sabbath School begs leave to say that, while much has been written and said, very little, to our minds, has been done. This school question requires action and not words. We make this suggestion, that each member of every church in this association join and attend the Sabbath Schools ; then the harvest will be great.—Respectfully submitted.

"M. W. FERGUERSON."

Report on missions was called for, and read by the writer. Elder Boon then spoke of our duty to ourselves, to the State, and to foreign lands. The best way in which to supply our own territory engaged the attention of the body to no small extent. Speeches were made by Clerk, Breth. Hinson, Braswell, Rev. Carter, and others. It reads as follows :

"REPORT ON MISSIONS.—The spirit of missions is the spirit of the gospel. The great object of the organization of the Christian church is to disseminate the gospel. The apostles were commanded to preach the gospel to every creature, beginning at Jerusalem. This presents the matter to you in the folowing order : 1st. To look after the destitution in our own midst, for instance in our own Asso-

ciation. 2nd. In our own State. 3rd. To the heathen. If our own territory is not supplied, it is our duty to provide for it. It is also our duty to contribute our part in supplying the destitution in the State. It is also our duty to aid in sending the gospel to the heathen. The same spirit that acts upon us in one of these departments acts upon us in another.—Respectfully submitted.

"J. B. Boon."

Report on periodicals was next taken up, on which good talks were made by several brethren, showing the necessity of taking the "Biblical Recorder." It was adopted, as follows:

Report on Periodicals.—Good actions are the results of good thoughts; and to have good thoughts one must read good literature. The Bible claims our first attention, and by the side of which should lie a copy of the "Biblical Recorder." How any Baptist family of this State can do without this paper we can not tell. You may say, "I am too poor." With this reason you will remain so. Why some get along better than others is because they think better. We know some who have subscribed for it during life. Ministers see that the small number of ten in your congregation are subscribers. It will be to your churches what sap is to the tree, and next year, doubtless, you will come bringing your sheaves with you.—Respectfully submitted.

E. H. Hinson.

The moderator called for the report on education, which was read. Here a motion to adjourn till the usual hour to-morrow morning carried. Benediction by the moderator.

Saturday, October 21st.

It had rained all night and morning, but notwithstanding several of the community, with the delegates, were present for the prayer meeting, conducted by Rev. L. M. Clenny. After a short recess, the Association was opened by singing "Once more we come before our God." Prayer by Elder Boon. Five minutes were then voted to Elder Boon, to tell us of Salisbury Church, for which over $6 were handed to him.

The letter from Macedonia, which was postponed, was taken up at the appointed time. The following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, there still being no delegates present from said church, Resolved that the Association approve of the letter of application, and will receive the church when delegates present themselves to receive the hand of fellowship."

Bro. Griffin asked for leave of absence, which was granted.

The report on education was again taken up. Elder Boon, being about to close his address on this subject, a voice called out: "Speak on ministerial education." He responded as if ready for anything. It stands adopted as follows:

"REPORT ON EDUCATION.—On this subject too much can not be said, neither cun it scarcely be over estimated. Even nations that are without it are in heathenism. It is the great boon to bring the people to Christ by enabling them to read his holy Word. No people can work without good tools, and an education is one of the best. It is a duty that parents owe to their children, to give them more than an "old-field school education." It will be to them more than riches.—Respectfully submitted.

"E. R. BURRIS, D. BURROUGHS."

Here the report from our missionary was read by Bro. Hinson. On motion it was postponed till we could hear from the finance committee. It was afterwards taken up and accepted as below:

"REPORT OF MISSIONARY—Spent seventy-five days, and preached seventy-five sermons. Organized four Sunday schoods. Assisted in constituting one church. Made several visits to private families, made prayer and gave counsel. Traveled about 800 miles. The prospect has been promising for the admission of several to our number. My labors have been blessed with new saints where I have preached. Have received only $1.95 for services.—All of which is submitted.

"E. C. WILLIAMS."

Also a letter from Elder Williams was read by the same brother, stating that illness in his family prevented him from being with us.

Report on church letters was then taken up. After some explanatory remarks, it was adopted, as follows:

"REPORT ON CHURCH LETTERS.—Clear Creek, nothing special, has a good Sabbath school; also invitss the Association to meet wirh them. Mill Creek, is at a stand-still, has a good Sabbath school. Pleasaut Grove has been much revived with four additions, has a Sabbath school. Prospect has had a good camp meeting with two additions, has been abundantly blessed this year, asks the Association to meet with her next session, Mineral Springs is at peace with all, had a good revival with twelve additions. Silver Springs has had a good meeting of days with additions; craves an interest in our prayers, requests us to unite with Brown Creek. Ebenezer has had a meeting of days, but with no addition. New Salem, nothing special, a good Sabbath school. Hopewell requests us to retain Elder Williams in the field. Howell's has had a few days meeting, a large Sabbath school. Concord desires the mission work to continue and will aid as they are able. Barbee's Grove has had a gracious revival with four additions, solicits the prayers of the brethren. Arlington had a gracious revival, which resulted in the burial of eleven

in baptism. Corinth had a revival with ten additions by baptism, desires the prayers of the Association. Canton had a meeting of days, with three additions. Anderson's Grove in good condition, nine added to the Church by baptism, has a Sunday school. Pleasant Grove is at a standstill, at peace with themselves and sister churches. Mt. Zion, a standstill without a pastor. Chaney's Hill had a meeting of days, resulted in the baptism of five.—Respectfully submitted,

"J. M. BRASWELL."

Report on Temperance was read by the writer, and discussed with much animation and in the spirit, by By Breth. McCurdy, Clerk, Ferguerson, Efird and others. It stands adopted as follows:

"The Bible enjoins temperance in all things. In some things temperance means the moderate use, but there are others so dangerous in their nature that to be temperate is to be a teetotaler. We cannot afford to play with an adder; the same law applies with equal force to ardent spirits. The time has come that no minister of the gospel can afford to drink spirits as a beverage; neither can any layman who is doing his part in trying to save sinners. Our prayer is that the cloud of intemperance which has so long darkened our land may be scattered, and truth and temperance reign.

"J. M. MCCURDY."

Adjourned half-an-hour for dinner.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The meeting was opened by prayer, offered by the moderator. By request, Elder Wilhoit was voted leave of absense. On account of the inclemency of the weather, and pressure of business, the house voted to have the sermon omitted for the day. The report on finance was called for by the moderator, was read and corrected, and received.

The treasurer was ordered to pay the amount on hand for home missions to Elders Williams and Hodge. The clerk was allowed $10 for his services.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. Hinson, after remarks by writer, moderator, and Bro. Ferguerson, it was adopted:

"Resolved, that the R. R. A. send a delegate to the State Convention, with money to become a member, also that we ask said convention to send us a missionary to occupy Concord, Albemarle, Mt. Pleasant and other points as much as the case will admit of; and we will do all that we can to support him.—Humbly submitted.

"E. H. HINSON."

By unanimous vote Elder James was chosen to attend the State Convention which meets at Warrenton, Nov. 15th. He was allowed $25 to bear his expenses, which was raised by the delegates.

Reports of committees appointed to attend adjoining associations: Bro. F. A. Laton was received by Pee Dee. Elder Carter attended Brown Creek and was cordially received.

Committees appointed to attend adjoining Associations for the ensuing year are:

Brown Creek: L. M. Clenny, E. H. Hinson, and J. M. Birmingham.

South Yadkin: J. M. McCurdy and B. H. James.

A petition was received from Anderson's Grove, soliciting a letter from this Association to the Pee Dee, which was granted. Bro. Braswell offered the following proposition, which was adopted: "Resolved, that the various committees be appointed at this session to write for the next.

"J. M. Braswell."

Moderator appointed committees as follows:

Order of Business: J. M. Braswell.

Temperance: E. H. Hinson.

Sabbath Schools: F. M. Hinson.

Periodicals: M. W. Ferguerson.

Missions: J. M. McCurdy.

Circular Letters: E. C. Williams.

Education: J. W. Brown.

Ministerial Support: Dr. Burrough.

By a unanimous vote the next Association will meet with Clear Creek.

On motion the clerk was ordered to write a short note from the obituaries, and insert the same in the minutes.

The following resolution met the hearty approbation of all:

"Resolved, that the thanks of this body be and are hereby tendered to the Pleasant Grove Church and neighborhood for the kind hospitality which they have manifested in taking care of the delegates while in session. "J. M. McCurdy."

Thus closed one of the most pleasant and prosperous meetings of this Association

E. M HINSON. Clerk. *B. H. JAMES. Moderator.*

FINANCIAL TABLE.

	For Minutes	Home Mission.
Clear Creek	$2 05	$ 5.20
Mill Creek	.80	18.45
Canton	2.00	6.00
Pleasant Hill	2 65	
Chaney's Hill	1 80	
Barbee's Grove	.90	
Hopewell	1 00	
New Salem	60	2.60
Ebenezer	1 00	15 00
Howell's	1.50	
Anderson's Grove	.75	
Arlington	3.00	14 00
Prospect	2 75	20 00
Mineral Springs	1 75	
Silver Springs	1 50	
Concord	.75	
Mt. Zion	.55	
Corinth	1 75	3.35
Pleasant Grove	2.00	
Associational Collections		7 00
Total	29.40	$92.50

Paid for Missionary Labor;—To E. C. Williams, ... $77.50
To J. F. Hodge, ... 15.00

Total $92.50

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERKS' P.-OF'CES	COUNTIES.	Sab. of Preaching	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Males	Females	Total
Clear Creek	R. H. James	J. A. Williams	Arlington	Mecklenburg	4	..	5	4	14	..	1	46	83	129
Mill Creek	E. C. Williams	C. H. Braswell	Monroe	Union	3	..	..	..	..	1	2	31	42	73
Prospect	B. H. Carter	W. A. Marks	Albemarle	Stanly	3	2	4	..	2	2	1	27	60	87
Corinth	U. F. Hathcock	Jno. Buchanan	Pool	Rowan	1	10	..	..	2	..	..	32	63	95
Canton	B. H. Carter	Israel Little	Big Lick	Stanly	4	3	..	2	1	2	2	18	33	51
Anderson's Grove	J. C. Denny	Thos. A. Laton	Albemarle	"	4	9	2	..	..	1	..	18	30	48
Mineral Springs	W. G. Morton	Jno. Brooks	Big Lick	"	2	10	3	..	4	..	..	13	35	48
Silver Spring	L. A. Whitlock	H. L. Green	Efird's Mills	"	1	2	..	..	7	4	8	40	63	103
Ebenezer	E. C. Williams	S. H. Pyron	Coburn's Store	Union	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	14	15	29
Arlington	R. H. James	E. H. Williams	Arlington	Mecklenburg	2	14	7	1	8	2	2	40	51	91
New Salem	H. B. King	J. G. King	Monroe	Union	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	6	7	13
Hopewell	E. C. Williams	Levi Johnson	Tulin	Cabarrus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Concord	W. M. Johnson	M. W. Ferguerson	Concord	"	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	4	13	17
Barbe's Grove	W. G. Morton	J. A. Huneycutt	Efird's Mills	Stanly	1	4	6	..	5	1	..	13	14	27
Howell's	R. H. James	J. M. McCurdy	Flows	Cabarrus	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	9	22	31
Pleasant Grove	E. P. Harrington	J. C. Efird	Big Lick	Stanly	2	4	5	..	..	3	..	19	49	68
Mt. Zion	Missionary	J. E. Carter	Gold Hill	Rowan	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	7
Gold Hill	Not represented	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chaney's Hill	R. H. James	J. T. Burrough	..	..	3	5	..	..	..	..	1	11	11	22
Pleasant Hill	B. H. Carter	L. F. Austin	Euto	Union	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	9	46	55
				Total		68	40	7	44	16	13	353	641	1009

OBITUARY.

The following are the names of those who, during the past Associational year, have gone to their home from whence none may return :

Robert Garland was an acceptable young brother of Clear Creek, about 21 years old.

J. I. Braswell died Dec. 6th, 1881. *B. M. Braswell* died Jan. 18th, 1882. Both were beloved members of Mill Creek.

Margaret Efird was a devoted member of Canton ; died Feb. 6th, 1882.

Catherine C. Huneycutt of Canton, departed this life Jan. 17th, 1882, in full possession of the gospel faith. Age 53 years.

Amanda Cleyton was a strict member of Prospect for 8 years. Died May 9th, 1882. Age about 30 years.

H. H. Hinson was a deacon and devout christian of Mineral Springs. Died July 12th, 1882. Age 55.

Martha Ann Wilhoit, a pious member of Silver Springs, departed this life Oct. 24th, 1881, in the 34th year of her age.

James A. Kimrey of Silver Springs, died March 2ne, 1882. Age 22 years. He was much beloved by all who knew him, and especially by his church.

Elizabeth Poplin was a religious member of the same church militant, till summoned to the church triumphant, April 24th, 1882. Age about 32.

J. F. Hodge, Jr., a son of the Rev. J. F. Hodge, was an earnest member of Arlington, and died a triumphant christian death.

Sarah Brafford commenced her walk with God at an early age, and remained faithful until she was taken from among the people of Arlington. Age about 25.

James Austin lived a model christian life, and died in hope of a happy immortality, while a membr of Chaney's Hill, Sept. 5, 1882. He was in the bloom of youth.

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Clear Creek Church, Mecklenburg Co., N. C.,

October 25th, 26th, 27th, 1883.

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SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

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Rocky River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

Clear Creek Church, Mecklenburg Co., N. C.,
October 25th, 26th, 27th, 1883.

COMPILED BY

F. M. HINSON.

Charlotte, N. C.
PRINTED BY JOHN FIRST, COMMERCIAL AND JOB PRINTER
1883.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

R. H. James, Moderator, Euto, N. C.
F. M. Hinson, Clerk, Arlington, N. C,
E. H. Hinson, Treasurer, Arlington, N. C.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

J. M. McCurdy. J. A Gourley.
With the officers of the Association.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS.

NAMES.	POST OFFICE.
E. C. Williams,	Mathews
B. H. Carter,	Albemarle
C. C. Forman,	Big Lick
J. F. Hodge,	Pool
B. S. Reader,	Raywood
R. H. James,	Euto
E. P. Harrington,	Efird's Mills
J. C. Denny,	Gold Hill
L. M. Clenny,	Ford
W. C. Owen,	Arlington
W. H. Huneycutt,	Whitleys
A. H. Hill,	Cedar Hill
J. R. Littleton,	Albemarle

LICENTIATES.

J. M. McCurdy,	Flow's Store
R. C. Ogburn,	Clear Creek
G. L. Endy,	Efird's Mills

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PROCEEDINGS.

CLEAR CREEK CHURCH, N. C.,
OCTOBER 25TH, 1883.

The Rocky River association assembled with the above mentioned church at a little past 11 o'clock.

After singing and reading a portion of scripture, and prayer by Bro. James, Elder T. J. Rook preached the introductory sermon from the text,—"Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you."—St. John 15 chap. 14 v. We are proud of Bro. Rook, and liked his sermon very much.

An appropriate prayer was offered by Elder A. C. Davis.

A recess of one hour.

2 P. M.

Association re-assembled, congregation singing, "I'll be there." Elder James being moderator, proceeded at once to organize, by appointing Breth. J. A. Gourley and J. M. McCurdy, Reading Clerks.

Church Letters were called for, read and names of Delegates recorded in the following order :

CLEAR CREEK: R. H. James, J. A. Williams, J. D. Helms.
CORNITH: John F. Hodge.
MILL CREEK: J. M. Braswell, W. H. Griffin, C. H. Braswell
CANTON: E. R. Burris, Henry Rodgers, Q. W. Burris.
EBENEZER: T. A Price, J. E. Rowell, S. H. Pyron.
ARLINGTON: E. H. Hinson, F. M. Hinson, W. H. Mullis.
NEW SALEM: W. H. Long, J. G. King, J. H. King.
HOPEWELL: No delegates.
BARBE'S GROVE: A. G. Turner, Robt. Hinson, J. H. Huneycutt.
HOWELL'S: J. M. McCurdy, J. M. Howell, A. S. Howell.
PLEASANT GROVE: E. P. Harrington, R. H. Hinson.
GOLD HILL: L. D. McLaurin, W. J. Johnson.
CHUNEY'S HILL: J. T. Huneycutt, M. W. Sutton, M. M. Love.
PLEASANT HILL: J. W. Farrar, Jno. Birmingham.
SILVER SPRINGS: W. J. Russell, H. S. Green, F. M. Wilhoit.
PROSPECT: W. A. Marks, B. H. Carter.
MINERAL SPRINGS: S. P. Hill, Steph. McEntier, Jno. Brooks.
CONCORD: M. W. Furguerson.

On motion, the delegates from Macedonia church were received, and the hand of fellowship was extended to Bro. J. A. Gourley and Elder E. C. Williams.

NcC
NcU

The election of officers being next in order, Breth. E. H. Hinson, E. P. Harrington and J. A. Gourley, were appointed to wait on the house and count the votes cast. They subsequently reported the re-election of R. H. James, Moderator; F. M. Hinson, Clerk; and for Treasurer, E. H. Hinson.

Churches seeking admission into our association were called for, whereupon delegates from Elizabeth church came forward with petition and letter. On motion they were received and given the hand of fellowship.

Moderator requested corresponding messenger to come forward. Elder Jno. W. Davis, of Anson; Bro. L. C. Morton and Elder A. C. Davis, of Brown Creek; were received, and asked to aid us in our deliberations.

Visiting brethren being requested, Elders C. S. Farris, Associate Editor of the Biblical Recorder; and T. J. Rook, of South Yadkin; responded, and were asked to feel themselves at home among us.

Here the letter from Silver Springs church was read, and names of delegates recorded. After prayer by Elder A. C. Davis, the Association adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock, to devote half-an-hour in a prayer meeting, business of the Association to commence at 10 A. M.

2ND DAY, OCTOBER, '26.

The brethren spent half-an-hour in a praise meeting, conducted by Rev. J. F. Hodge. After a short recess, the Association was called to order by the moderator, who read a portion of one of the Psalms.

Prayer by Elder Davis.

On motion, the order of business was first taken up, read and adopted, as below:

"We, your committe on order of business, would recommend, that the various subjects assigned at the last session to report at this, be taken up in the same order as they appear on the minutes. We further recommend that a committee on religious exercises be immediately appointed; and would suggest that one hour be set apart each day for public preaching.—Resp. Submitted,

"J. M. BRASWELL."

Minutes of yesterday were read and approved.

Here letters from Prospect, Mineral Springs, and Concord were presented, read, and names of delegates enrolled.

On religious exercises, delegates and deacons of the church, were appointed.

By a vote, the report on mission was laid over till to-morrow, to be taken up on arrival of Bro. Jno. E. Ray.

Then came the report on temperance, which was read by Elder Rook A lengthy and instructive discussion followed by writer; Breth. Rook, Ferguerson, Davis; and several others. It was adopted as follows:

"'Be ye temperate in all things.' St. Paul, the wisest and most talented of all the Apostles of Jesus Christ, was the strongest advocate of the cause of temperance, both for its spiritual, and physical benefits. Yet mind you, in this cause he included all things. Not only did he condemn the use of strong drink, but the intemperate use of the human mouth in any way, and especially that unruly part of it, the tongue; because, being both a wise and an observant man, he had found in his day and generation—as

many of us have, in our own—that many a maa who can bridle his appetites and passions has, when his predjudices are concerned, no bit that will fit his tongue. Behold the paths of peace and happiness of those who walk therein! Now, without reason and moderation,—another word for temperance,—there can neither be peace, nor happiness in home or heart, and without these life must be a failure indeed, so far as the individual man is concerned. Such, then, being an inevitable fact, which there is no getting around, is it not truly the part of wisdom to face it manfully that it may not only be well with us here on earth, but through the countless years of an unending eternity? Now temperance is one of the strongest moral laws which an all-wise God and Creator has placed before us; so let no man dare think he can violate it without saddling himself with a debt of retribution to be surely paid, not only in this world, but in the eternity of the next. Ah! then, my dear friends, let us all keep in that medium path while the sign-posts are up, and we have time to read the directions. But were there no hereafter at all, still the temperate would be the sensible man; because he alone could enjoy in a rational manner the comforts and pleasures which a kindly Creator has placed before him.

"E. H. HINSON."

The Association was led in prayer by Elder Farris.

Adjourned for half-an-hour.

EVENING SESSION. 1:30 P. M.

Body reassembled, singing, "Jesus my all." Prayer, Elder Jno. W. Davis leading.

From pressure of business, a motion prevailed to omit the sermon.

By vote, the report on periodicals was substituted for the report on Sabbath-schools.

The report was then read and much was said in favor of the *Recorder* by Breth. Gourley, Rook, Moderator, and Farris; after which, a short time was voted to the associate editor, assisted by some of the bretheren, to take subscribers. The report was adopted on

PERIODICALS.

"Your committee appointed to write upon periodicals present the following: We feel it our duty, as well as a privilege, to have the "Biblical Recorder," and believe that it should be in every baptist family in North Carolina. It is the medium through which we become acquainted with the great baptist family of the State. We urge upon the pastors to make some effort to get their members to take it. It is a fact worthy of note and remembrance, that of the many who read this paper, but few, if any, wander from that faith which was once delivered to the saints.—Respectfully submitted.

"M. W. FERGUERSON."

The following resolution was offered by Bro. Hinson and adopted without any remarks.

"Whereas, there are reports in circulation affecting the standing of Bro. R. H. James as a minister of the gospel; therefore be it

"Resolved, That this association appoint a committe of five to examine Elder James as to his doctrine, whether it be orthodox or not. Committee to report to-morrow, and consist of C. C. Forman, J. M. Davis, A. C. Davis, C. S. Farris, and T. J. Rook.

"For further information see "Report on Church Letters" from Mill Creek and "Report on Committee."

Moderator appointed on church letters, Breth. McCurdy, Hodge and Gourley.

On Finance, Breth. Hinson, Harrington and Dr. Burris.

Elder Rook was allowed a few minutes to tell us of the church being built at Mooresville, for which a collection of $10.06 was raised.

The report on ministerial support being called for, was read. After appropriate remarks by Elders Jno. W. and A. C. Davis,

Breth. Hinson, Ferguerson, clerk, and Gourley, it was adopted and read as follows:

"Your committee appointed to write on ministerial support submit that the scriptures teach that the laborer is worthy of his hire, and that they that preach the gospel shall live of the gospel, and they that minister unto you in spiritual things should be ministered unto by you in temperal things, We would urge that the members of the churches give more liberally of their means to sustain the gospel in their midst, and that they see that their pastors' salaries are such as will enable them to give their whole time to the work.—Respectfully submitted,

"E. R. BURRIS."

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, with prayer by one of the brethren.

3RD DAY, OCT 27.

MORNING SESSION.

The prayer meeting was conducted by Rev. McCurdy.

The Association was called to order at 10 o'clock by the moderator.

Hymn, "Jesus lover of my soul." Moderator read a portion of Scripture.

Association was led in prayer by Elder Jno. W. Davis. Roll was called and absentees noted. Minutes were read and approved.

Bro. J. W. Brown, appointed to write on education, being absent, the report was postponed till evening, and Bro. Gourley, assisted by Elder Farris, was appointed to prepare a report.

On motion, the moderator called for the report of the committee which was appointed yesterday. It was read by Elder A. C. Davis.

Bro. Ray made a feeling talk, after which it was adopted, as follows:

"Your committee appointed to examne Bro. James as to his orthodoxy report that they find his views regarding the main doctrines as held by baptists to be correct. Below are the questions asked with answers by Bro. James appended:

"1. Q.—Do you believe the soul of man exists forever? Ans.—Yes.

"2 Q.—In what does regeneration consist? Ans.—By being made a new creature through the quickening influence of the spirit of God.

"3. Q.—What is the office of the Holy Spirit in regeneration? Ans.—As a teacher —a quickener of the mind and heart.

"4. Q.—What does baptism have to do with regeneration? Ans.—A symbol merely of death to the old life of sin, and resurrection to the new life which is in Christ.

"5. Q.—Who are entitled to partake of the Lord's supper? Ans.—Those who have been regenerated and baptized.

"6, Q—Do you believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and unjust? Ans.—Yes.

"7. Q.—Do you believe in the everlasting reward of the rightous and of the everlasting punishment of the wicked? Ans.—Yes.

"Your committee would recommend that this report be published in the "Biblical Recorder."

"C. C. FORMAN,
J. W. DAVIS,
A. C. DAVIS,
C. J. FURRIS,
Committee."

Visiting brethren being called for, Bro. Jno. E. Ray, representing the board of missions, especially State mission, responded in a nice, happy style, and was requested to feel himself at home among us.

The report on missions was taken up at the appointed time, and read by the writer.

An unlimited time was voted to Bro. Ray to tell us of this great work. His speech was so instructive, and his manner so delightful, as to make one hour and a half seem quite short; at the close of which a collection of $49.55 was taken up for State missions.

The following report was then adopted on

MISSIONS

"Ye are the salt of the earth;" "Ye are the light of the world;" "Let your light so shine before men."

"Dear brethren:—Our blessed Saviour emphatically taught his disciples that through their instrumentality the glorious gospel of the Son of God should be communicated to the children of men. If this be the teaching of God's Word, which cannot be denied, then the question arises: What are the means to be used te accomplish this great work?

The preaching of this gospel is the means through which lost souls can come to God; and the command is to preach it to every creature. This very day there are thousands who know not God, neither have they any way-bill from earth to heaven, nor know anything about that hope for which you would not take this world. How are they to hear without a preacher? And how are they to preach unless they be sent? Now, a word to the wise is sufficient; let us bring our tithes into the store-house and see if the Lord will not pour out his blessing upon us, so that there will not be room to contain it; then shall our Home, State, and Foreign Missions blossom as the rose.

"Respectfully submitted,

"J. M. McCURDY."

EVENING SESSION. 2 P. M.

Re-assembled; congregation singing, "Our heavenly home is bright and fair."

After prayer, a petition from Wilson Grove, seeking admission into our association was presented. By a vote it was read and adopted, and the hand of fellowship extended to its delegates, viz: Breth. E. C. Williams, D. S. Ellington, and J. T. Allen. It is located 5 miles West of Arlington.

The following report was read on

EDUCATION.

"Your committee appointed to prepare a report on Education, would respectfully call the attention of the Association to the great need of education among the Baptists of the State. Other denominations are going forward in this great cause. Whatever tends towards the advancement of education, tends toward the advancement of the Baptist. Prominent among the educational institutions of the South, and one that commends itself to our prayers and support, is Wake Forest College. We would, therefore, recommend to parents in this Association, who have sons to educate, to send them to Wake Forest College. We fully realize the work of uneducated ministers; yet, many are aged men, whom the Lord will soon call home, and the coming age will be one of education in every department of life. It behooves Baptists to push forward the education of their ministers. There are now at Wake Forest College thirty five ministerial students, which still open wide its doors to all who feel called to preach the gospel. We therefore urge all who feel themselves thus called to avail themselves of these privileges.

"Respectfully submitted,

"J. A. GOURLEY."

It was discussed by Breth. McCurdy, Gourley, Ray and Farris, and adopted. Someone handed Bro. Ray $2 for W. F. C.

The writer then read the following report on

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

"We would be glad if we were justified in making to you this report: 'During the past year every member of the church in this Association has been an active member of the Sabbath School for the good of the children.' If, on the Lord's day, all the members would sow the spiritual seeds of God's eternal truths in the minds of the children,

it would not take a learned philosopher to tell you that 10 years from to-day the ingathering of souls to our churches would be great. This institution of the church is for the moral and religious training of both the mind and the heart. A person who has a knowledge of timber, has the idea of the mind. You see the application. The child's mind can be bent in almost in any direction, and lasting impressions for good be easily made. When left till middle age, perhaps your advice and influence will come too late. Ministers seldom make mention of the children in their prayers or have any thing to say to them in their sermons; but when they do that "bit" is remembered by the old people when the rest is forgotten. Brethren, the Sabbath-school is not to take the place of religious training in the family—only to aid it.

"Go with your children to the bible class. They have as much right to absent themselves as you. Parents, if you have any bad boys, don't tell them that they will be hung at an early age: talk to them as reasonable beings, with parental love and prayer; furnish them with "Kind Words" published at Macon, Ga., and with such helps as are kept by the Sunday-school supply store, Raleigh, N. C Remember, brethren, that good thoughts precede good actions; and, if you neglect this duty, somebody will sow. Satan will come and sow tares; and what ought to have been to you a harvest of blessing, will be a harvest of sorrow.

"May God bless our Sabbath-schools!—Humbly submitted,

"F. M. HINSON."

It was discussed by Bro. Ray only, in his good way, and adopted.

Report on Church Letters was read and adopted. A motion to reconsider prevailed.

The clerk offered the following amendment, which was adopted:

"Strike out of the report on the letter from Silver Springs that part refering to Bro. Littleton,"

The report was discussed by Breth. Forman, McCurdy and others, with some animation. The following resolution was then offered and unanimously adopted:

"Resolved: That the moderator appoint a committee of three to visit Silver Springs and enquire into the cause of the church receiving Rev. J. R. Littleton as a member and minister from Ebenezer church. "J. A. GOURLEY."

Breth. Gourley, Hinson, and McCurdy, were selected as a committee to meet with the above-named church, on Sat., Dec. 1st, '83.

The report was then adopted as follows:

CLEAR CREEK reports nothing special. Has had a revival with six additions by baptism; also a Sabbath School.

MILL CREEK, held a meeting of days: resulted in ten additions. They also represent some division among themselves, caused by certain doctrines being advocated among them by Rev. R. H. James. A strip was handed us, asking for a dismission, to unite with some other body.

PLEASANT HILL had a revival with 33 addions by baptism. They also invite the association to meet with them next year.

CHANEY'S HILL reports a revival and 23 accessions by baptism.

BARKE'S GROVE has had a revival with and addition of 14; also a good Sabbath-school.

HOPEWELL: nothing special. Have obtained a plat of ground upon which to build a house of worship.

NEW SALEM reports a revival, and 3 by baptism. A good Sabbath-school. They ask for a letter of dismission to unite with Brown Creek, and request an interest in our prayers.

HOWELL'S has had no pastor during the year, but had a protracted meeting with an increase of 8 by baptism. A good Sunday-school and singing school that has added much to the interest of their church.

ARLINGTON has been blessed with a revival and the burial of 15 souls with Christ in baptism. Had a Sunday-school and an evergreeen prayer meeting. Asks other churches to follow this example.

PROSPECT had a camp-meeting: one added by baptism. Have an evergreen Sabbath-school, and asks the association to meet with them.

MINERAL SPRINGS reports a revival and 12 added by baptism.

SILVER SPRINGS has been blessed with a revival and one additon by baptism.

CONCORD church reports nothing special. No additions; but the out-look more hopeful.

CORNITH had a revival and 8 additions. For convenience they ask for a letter to unite with some other association of the same faith.

PLEASANT GROVE had 3 accessions. A good Sabbath-school all year; also a prayer meeting.

ELIZABETH has just been newly constituted, but had a glorious revival with 2 added since organized. Are in working condition for the Master, and hope to build a house soon.

MACEDONIA is also a newly-constituted church without a house of worship, but expect to build. Had 2 additions by baptism.

GOLD HILL: nothing special. Are struggling under a church debt, and request the churches to aid them. Have a good Sabbath-school.

EBENEZER reports nothing special. They regret that they have neglected their duty. Also handed your committee a strip asking for a letter of dismission to join some other body

CANTON is in a good condition. Has a Sabbath-school, a weekly prayer meeting with an increase of nine to their number. Invites the association to meet with them at its next session.

"Your committe, finds that there has been one hundred and fifty souls added to this association during the year, for which give God the glory.—Respectfully submitted,

"J. A HODGE,
J. M. MCCURDY,
J. A. GOURLEY,
Committee."

Bro. Hinson as chairman of the committee read the following report which was adopted:

FINANCE.

	For Minutes	Home Mission.
Clear Creek,	$3 00	$ 5 75
Mill Creek	1 15	
Canton,	1 00	
Pleasant Hill,	2 00	
Howell's,	1 30	
Prospect,	1 65	
Silver Springs,	1 50	
Mineral Springs,	1 75	
Pleasant Grove,	1 40	2 35
Corinth,	1 10	
Mt. Zion,		
Concord,	75	2 00
Ebenezer,	1 00	2 00
Arlington,	3 00	10 00
Chaney's Hill,	2 00	
Barbe's Grove,	1 60	
New Salem,	70	1 35
Hopewell,	1 00	
Elizabeth,	1 00	
Gold Hill,	50	
Macedonia,	50	
Wilson's Grove,	1 00	
Received from Clerk, surplus,	9 25	
Total,	$37 70	$21 45

E. H. HINSON, Chairman.

Report of messengers appointed to attend the sessions of adjoining sister associations: Breth. Hinson and Williams attended Brown Creek and were cordially received.

Moderator appointed cor. messengers for the ensuing year to:

Brown Creek: E. H. Hinson, E. C. Williams.

South Yadkin: J. A. Gourley, J. M. McCurdy.

Anson meets at the same time, hence none appointed.

Petitions from Mill Creek, Corinth, Ebenezer, and New Salem, were presented soliciting letters from our Association to unite with others, and were granted.

The Moderator was aided in appointing the following committees to write for next session, on:

Order of Business: J. A. Gourley.

Temperance: W. M. Ferguerson.

Sabbath Schools: J. M. McCurdy.

Periodicals: F. M. Wilhoit.

Foreign Missions: E. S. Reeder.

State Missions: E. C. Williams.

Home Missions: E. H. Hinson.

Education: D. S. Ellington.

Ministerial Support: J. A. Gourley.

By unanimous vote the Association will hold its next session with the church at Pleasant Hill, commencing Oct. 23d, 1884.

Dr. Burris was voted leave of absence.

Rev. C. C. Forman was chosen to preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. Hodge his alternate.

Elder E. C. Williams was unanimously chosen as a delegate to the Baptist State Convention, that meets at Edenton, Nov. 14, '84.

Breth. Gourley and McCurdy were selected as members of the Executive Board.

Clerk was allowed $10 for his services, and was ordered to have 500 copies published and distributed in the usual way.

The following resolution was offered by Bro. Gourley, and unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due, and are hereby tendered to the Clear Creek Church and neighborhood for the kind hospitality which they have manifested in taking care of the delegates while in session."

The closing prayer was offered by Elder Carter. The brethren took the parting hand, singing "Jesus my all."

Those who knew whereof they spoke, said that the Seventeenth Session was the best that they had ever attended in the R. R. A.

F. M. HINSON, Clerk. *R. H. JAMES, Moderator.*

SUNDAY MORNING EXERCISES.

Sunday School mass-meeting was conducted by Elder A. C. Davis, with five minutes speeches from the brethren, interspersed with music.

The singing was good, especially Sunday morning. Choir was lead by Prof. Farrar.

At 11 o'clock, a very large congregation gathered at the stand, and listened very attentively to two missionary sermons: First, by Elder Forman—text, "The Son of man came to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke, 19:10. Second, by Elder A. C. Davis—text, "For we are laborers together with God." 1 Cor., 3:9.

While singing "From Greenland's icy mountains," a collection was taken up, amounting to $20.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The meetings of the Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. No motion shall claim the attention of the Association or the Moderator, unless it has a second; nor shall it be opened for discussion until formally announced by the Moderator.

3. When the motion has been made and regularly announced by the Moderator, no other motion shall be received, except to amend, to substitute, or lay on the table, or to postpone definitely or indefinitely. But a motion for adjournment shall always be in order, except when a member is engaged in speaklng, or the body in voting.

4. When a member wishes to speak on any question, he shall rise in his place and address the Moderator. If two or more shall rise at the same time, the Moderator shall determine who has the floor. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject, unless by permission of the body.

5. All questions of order shall be contested by the Moderator, or any member of the Association, and shall be determined by the Moderator, subject to an appeal to the body.

6. All motions for adoption of the body shall be submitted in writing if required.

7. If a member shall absent himself from the Association without permission from the body, he shall be under censure, and his name shall appear on the minutes as an absentee. This rule shall not be set aside except to meet extra cases.

STANDING RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That we correspond with sister Associations by letter or minutes, and that any member of our Association being present at the session of any other, with which we correspond, and presenting a copy of our last year's minutes containing his name, may represent us in that Association, and shall, in behalf of thebody solicit correspondence.

OBITUARIES.

MARY MASON put her trust in God at the early age of 12. She remained 30 years a good member of Prospect, and was then called to a higher life.

LEVI FESPERMAN lived to be 82 years old, but only spent one year of his life as a member of Arlington, and was then called to appear at the portals of the great unseen.

G. H. HUNEYCUTT was a deacon and devout christian of Mineral Springs. He united with the Baptist church in 1866, and remained faithful till summoned to the church triumphant.

ELI ALLEN'S body now sleeps in Clear Creek churchyard, and his soul has gone to God who gave it. After being a member of the Baptist faith 40 years, he was taken Dec., 14, 1882 in the 80th year of his age.

L. B. FERGUERSON was a dear old brother to the people of Clear Creek. He was an earnest member for 40-odd years, and died in the 84th year of his age, and as his life went slowly out from old earth, farther and farther, his prospects for the kingdom of our God grew brighter and brighter.

ELIZABETH TALBERT fell asleep in Jesus while a member of Chaney's Hill. In her was a loving wife, a good mother, a kind grand-mother, and a mother in Israel.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERK'S POSTOFFICES.	COUNTIES.	Sab. of Preaching	Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	No. of Males	No. of Females	Total
Clear Creek	R. H. James	J. A. Williams	Arlington	Mecklenburg	4	6	3	1	16	1	2	43	79	122
Mill Creek	E. C. Williams	C. H. Braswell	Monroe	Union	3	10	1	4	4	1	1	37	42	79
Prospect	B. H. Carter	W. A. Marks	Bilesville	Stanly	3	1	1		1		1	27	58	85
Corinth	W. F. Hatcock	Jno. Buchanan	Poole	Rowan	3	8	1		2		1	36	64	100
Canton	E. P. Harrington	E. R. Burris	Albemarle	Stanly	4	9			9	5				46
Mineral Springs	S. P. Hill	Jno. Brooks	Big Lick	"	2	12	11		4	3	1	25	39	64
Silver Springs	J. R. Littleton	J. Q. Forman	Albemarle	"	1	1	4	1	2	4	2	40	62	102
Howell's	Without any	J. M. McCurdy	Flows	Cabarrus	2	8			2			12	25	37
Concord	W. M. Johnson	M W Ferguerson	Concord	"								4	13	17
Pleasant Hill	B. H. Carter	L. F. Austin	Euto	Union	1	33	1	5	2					91
Pleasant Grove	C. C. Forman	Jno. C. Efird	Big Lick	Stanly	2	3	1			2		19	52	71
Gold Hill	D. C. Culbreth	L D. McCarn	Gold Hill	Rowan	3						2	5	9	14
Barbe's Grove	E. P. Harrington	J. W. Huneycutt	Efird's Mills	Stanly	1	14	2		2	2		19	20	39
Ebenezer	E. C. Williams	S. H. Pyron	Raywood	Union	2					1		14	14	28
Arlington	R. H. James	E. H. Hinson	Arlington	Mecklenburg	2	15	7		4	4	1	41	62	103
New Salem	H. B. King	J. G. King	Monroe	Union	2	3	3					9	10	19
Hopewell	E. C. Williams	Levi Johnson	Tulin	Cabarrus	2		2		3		1	3	5	8
Mt. Zion	Not represented.	J. E. Carter	Gold Hill	Rowan	2							3	4	7
Chaney's Hill	R. H. James	J. T. Burris	Leo	Cabarrus	3	23	4				1			47
Macedonia	E. C. Williams	J. A. Gourley	Concord	"	4	2	1					3	8	11
Elizabeth	E. P. Harrington	T. W. Pinion	Mission	Stanly	3	2								16
						150	42	11	51	23	13	340	546	1086